

Socially responsible AI for Australian not-for-profits

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GRADIENT
INSTITUTE



Acknowledgement of Country

Training overview

An introduction to AI and its responsible use, including how AI works, its capabilities, opportunities and risks.

Delivery: 2 hrs, including Q&A

Audience: No prior knowledge of AI or machine learning (ML) is required.

Purpose:

- To promote widespread awareness of AI uses, types, opportunities and limitations
- To enable innovation with AI in your organisation, while managing its risks

Part of a broader initiative

Responsible AI capability uplift for Australian NFPs and social enterprises

- **Responsible AI education and training** (**introductory** and specialised)
- Helping NFPs and social enterprises develop and use AI responsibly - e.g.*:
 - Assistance with AI strategy and roadmapping
 - Advisory on safe and responsible development and deployment of AI systems
 - AI system assessments
 - AI innovation workshops
 - *conditions apply and subject to availability

Offerings are **free** to qualifying Australian NFPs and social enterprises.

Gradient's work on this is supported by a grant from Google.org, Google's charitable arm.

AI is a powerful tool to make positive change

Mind Over Paralysis: AI Helps Quadriplegic Man Move and Feel Again



Image: Northwell Health, YouTube

How To Fight Climate Change Using AI



<https://about.google/intl/en-GB/stories/save-the-bees/>

Robotic Beehive Using AI To Save The Bees And Global Food Supply

Google's DeepMind A.I. beats doctors in breast cancer screening trial

How AI can accelerate students' holistic development and make teaching more fulfilling

AI failures (to learn from) and novel risks (to manage)

Unreliable customer services



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Fund independent journalism with \$17 per month
Support us →

The Guardian
A voice of balance & difference

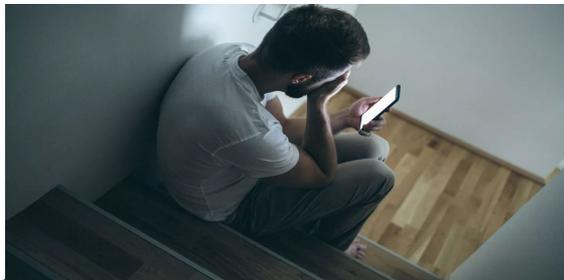
Air Canada ordered to pay customer who was misled by airline's chatbot

Company claimed its chatbot 'was responsible for its own actions' when giving wrong information about bereavement fare



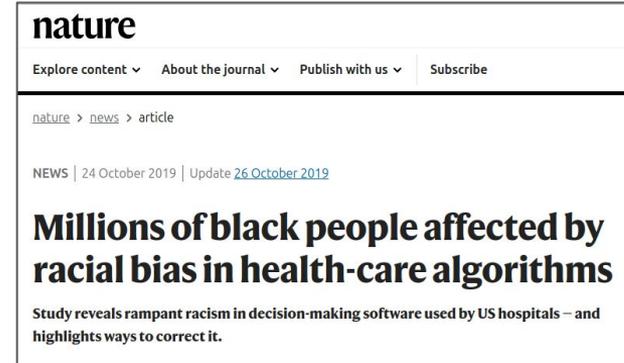
✎ The judge wrote that Air Canada's customers had no way of knowing which part of its website - including its chatbot - relayed the correct information. Photograph: NurPhoto/Getty Images

Dangerous customer experiences



Man ends his life after an AI chatbot 'encouraged' him to sacrifice himself to stop climate change

Bias and discrimination



nature

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[nature](#) > [news](#) > article

NEWS | 24 October 2019 | Update 26 October 2019

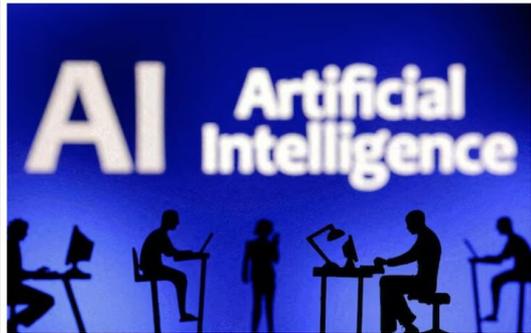
Millions of black people affected by racial bias in health-care algorithms

Study reveals rampant racism in decision-making software used by US hospitals – and highlights ways to correct it.



Workday must face novel bias lawsuit over AI screening software

By Daniel Wiessner
July 16, 2024 9:29 PM GMT+10 · Updated 7 days ago



Figurines with computers and smartphones are seen in front of the words "Artificial Intelligence AI" in this illustration taken, February 19, 2024. REUTERS/Dado Ruvic/Illustration/File Photo [Purchase Licensing Rights](#)

and many many more

The challenge....

How to **innovate** for effectiveness, efficiency and positive societal outcomes

while

managing the risks and avoiding the failures

We are an independent, not-for-profit research institute and charity

We work to bring safety, accountability, transparency and ethics into AI

We work on

- **research** into developing and using AI safely and responsibly
- **practice** through education, audits and advice for businesses, government and NFPs
- **policy** development and advice to government

Founded in 2019 by:



and enabled with help from:

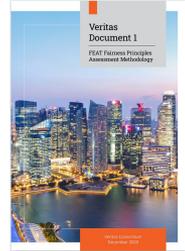


Some Gradient Institute work

Government AI methodologies and guidelines

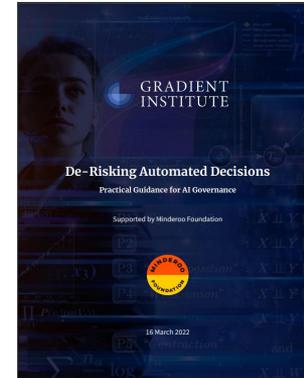
Practice

Research



Responsible AI assessments

- Tier-1 banks
- Tier-1 recruiting platform
- Tier-1 telecommunications company
- Government agencies
- Tier-1 data analytics company



With Minderoo Foundation (2022)



IEEE Computer (2022)

Responsible AI training and education

- Tier-1 retailer
- Tier-1 telecommunications company
- Tier-1 banks and insurance companies
- Tier-1 recruiting platform
- Health researchers and clinicians
- Australian government agencies/regulators

Advisory group membership:

- Australian Government AI expert group advising on AI regulation
- Co-developing Australian voluntary AI Safety Standard
- Standards Australia/ISO AI standards committee
- National AI Centre's Responsible AI Network Advisory Group
- NSW Government AI Review Committee
- NSW Ombudsman automated decision making mapping advisory group
- ANU Computer Science Advisory Board



Nature Scientific Reports (2022)

With Australian Government: AI Ethics Principles (2019)

With Australian Human Rights Commission (2020)

With Monetary Authority of Singapore for the Singapore finance industry (2021)



With CSIRO National AI Centre (2023)



With Department of Industry (2024)



With National AI Centre (2024)

Your facilitators



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Chief Executive



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Agenda

Socially Responsible AI For Australian NFPs

[0:00-0:15] Introduction

[0:15-0:40] What AI Can Do

[0:40-1:00] How AI Works

[1:00-1:10] Break

[1:10-1:25] Socially Responsible Use of AI

[1:25-1:40] Good AI Practices

[1:40-1:55] Next Steps

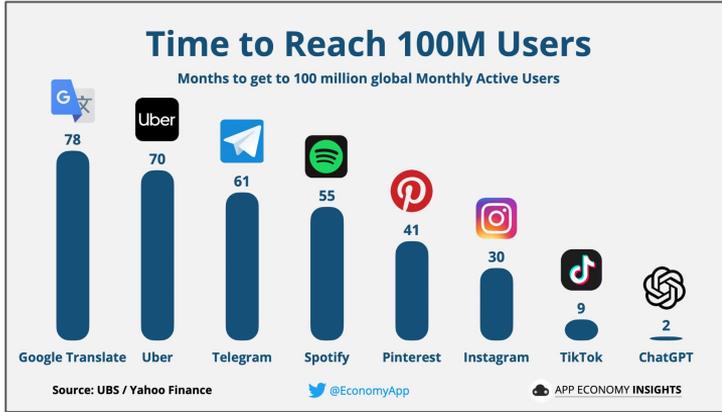
[1:55-2:00] Q&A



What AI Can Do

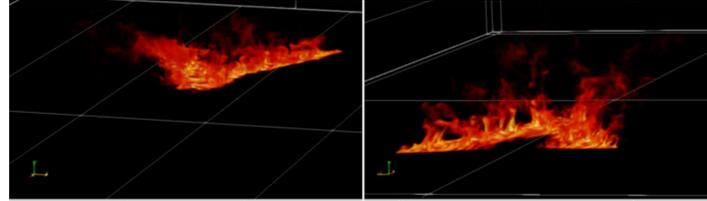


AI in the world



Wildfire simulation

This effectively addresses the data sparsity issue and allows for better ML being developed to address various fire predictions, such as early warning for extreme fire development.



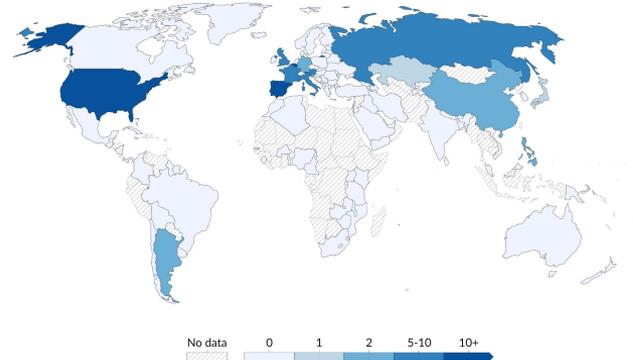
Potential for up to 10% less emissions with optimized traffic lights



Cumulative AI-related bills passed into law since 2016, as of 2023

Bills passed into law by national legislative bodies (e.g., congress, parliament) with the keyword "artificial intelligence" (translated to the respective languages) in the title or body of the bill.

OurWorld
In Data

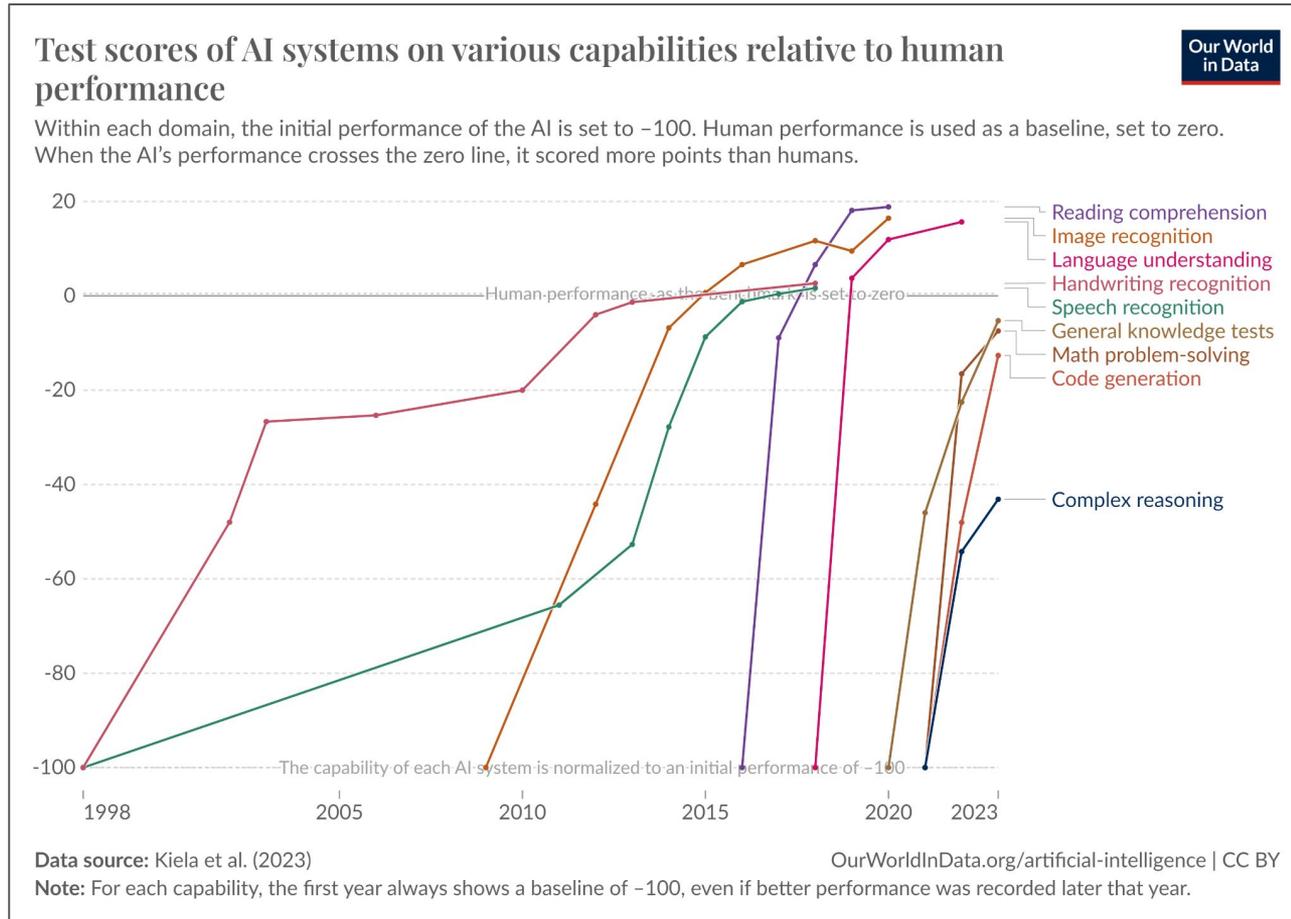


Data source: AI Index (2024)

OurWorldInData.org/artificial-intelligence | CC BY

Note: For example, the [Identifying_Outputs_of_Generative_Adversarial_Networks_Act](#) passed into law by the US Congress.

Why all the attention?



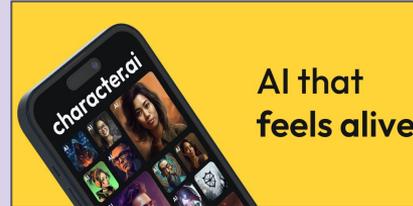
Applications of LLMs

Work Assistance



Coding
Editing
Writing
...

Recreational use



Entertainment
Interactive fiction
Personalised learning

AI



Commercial use

News and advertising
Sales & customer support



News Corp using AI to produce 3,000 Australian local news stories a week

Information Retrieval



Here's an example of a traditional search query:

Catskill Mountains height

And then reformatted as a natural language query:

How high are the Catskill Mountains?

Search
Summarisation
Retrieval



... and lots more ...

Discussion: AI and You

Take a few minutes to think about the following. Over the next 3 years, what is an application of AI that you can envisage...

- ***your organisation*** using internally?
- ***your organisation*** using that is externally-facing? (e.g. to your clients/beneficiaries or the public)
- solving a key problem of ***your organisation*** and how?
- ***a client/beneficiary*** using that would improve their life?

Note: Try to think of at least one example that no one else will think of.

Potential areas where AI can help 1/2

Traditional AI (predictive analytics, next best action, recommendation, retrieval, etc.)

- **Allocate finite resources** according to risk / need, e.g.:
 - assign case workers, support plans, or other interventions
- **Triage** or classify cases to the right place
- **Fundraising** done efficiently and effectively, e.g.,
 - Suggest optimal amount by donor
 - Fraud protection
- **Fill gaps in available data** (with caution!), e.g.:
- predict responses to survey from a random subsample

Potential areas where AI can help 2/2

Generative AI (writing assistants, image generators, transcribers, videomakers, etc.)

- Provide human-like **conversational interface:**
 - chat-bot to provide support
- **Support front-line staff, e.g.:**
 - find answers to questions from large information repositories
 - summarise or search previous interactions
- **Automate marketing** campaigns
- **Targeted, impactful messages, stories**
 - Craft the right message / story about your mission
- **Internal productivity**, e.g.,
 - Meeting transcriptions and follow-ups
 - Speeding up / appropriate communications
 - Touch up / improve funding applications

AI tooling

Big Tech

-  Microsoft [AI for good labs](#)
-  IBM [Data and AI for social impact](#)
-  Google [AI for social good](#)
-  Salesforce [Salesforce for nonprofit](#)

Productivity



-  storly.ai
-  Exemplary AI [exemplary.ai/non-profits](#)
-  MeetGeek [meetgeek.ai](#)
-  Otter.ai

Fundraising



-  Fundraise Up [fundraiseup.com](#)
-  ARJUNA [arjunasolutions.com](#)

GenAI Leaders



-  Midjourney
-  Anthropic
-  Mistral
-  OpenAI

Learning / DIY

-  DeepLearning.AI
- Coursera
- Udemy
- Tutorials, Docs

How AI Works



Two Different Approaches

Classic Software:

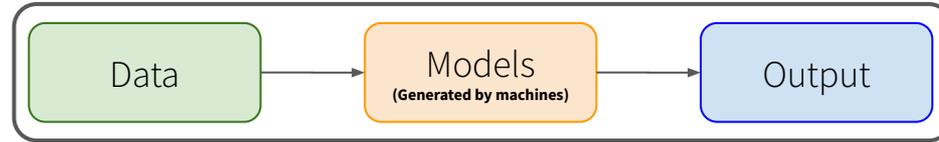


Two Different Approaches

Classic Software:



Artificial Intelligence:

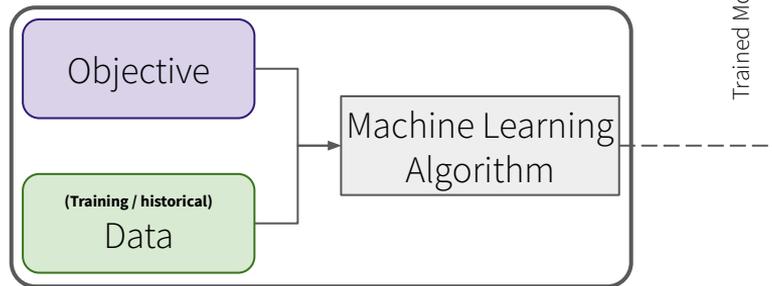
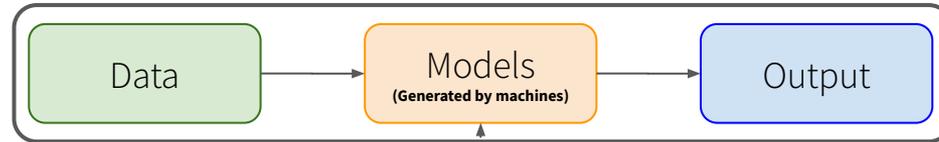


Two Different Approaches

Classic Software:



Artificial Intelligence:



Source: Gradient Institute

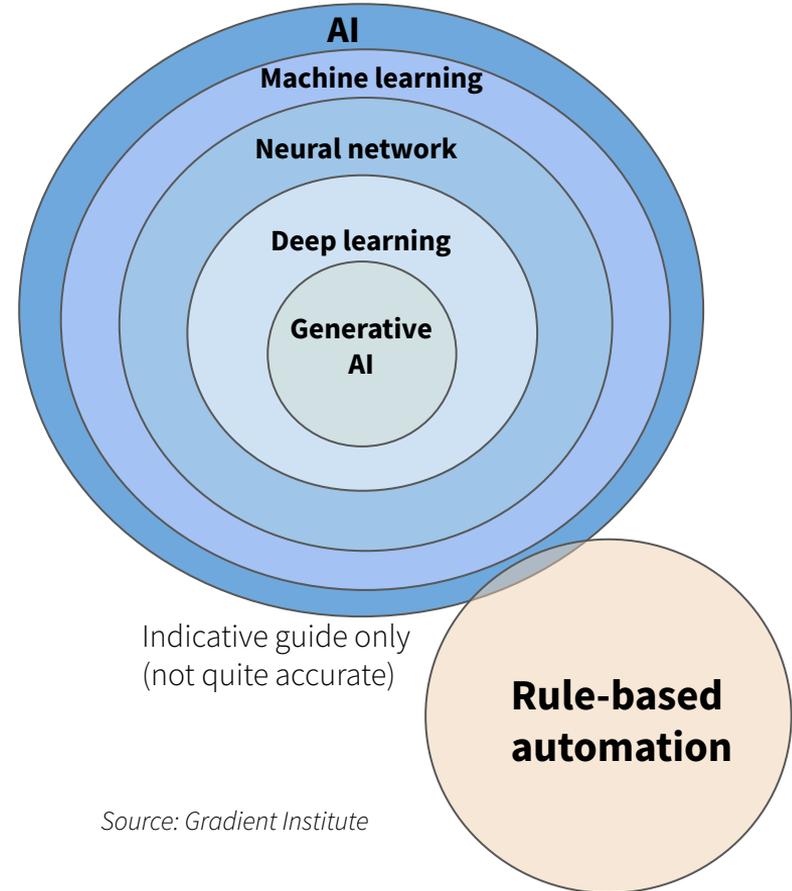
Automation with machine learning

Rule-based automation

- Explicit instructions or rules by developers

Machine learning automation

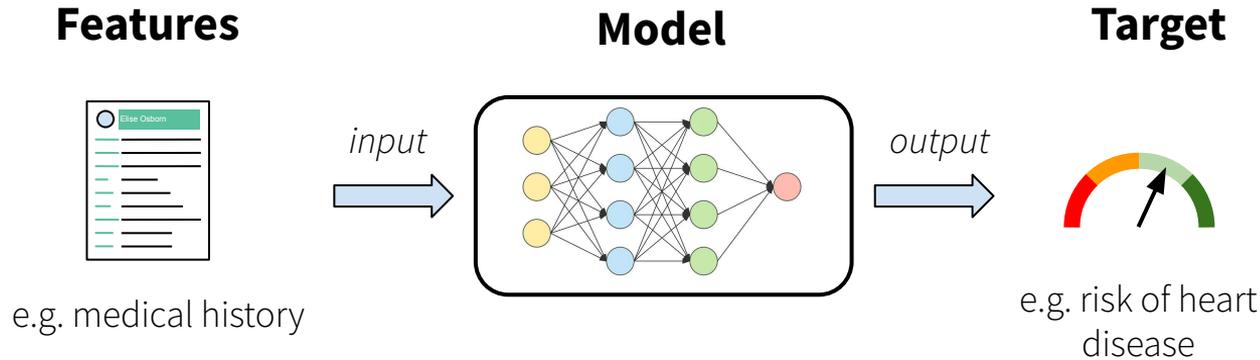
- Precise **objective** and provides the **data** provided by the developer
- Computer **learns** models or rules that the data suggest will achieve the objective



Source: Gradient Institute

What is a model?

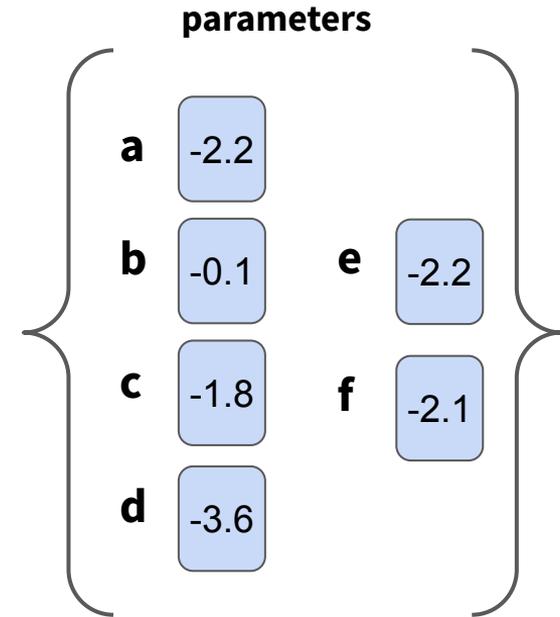
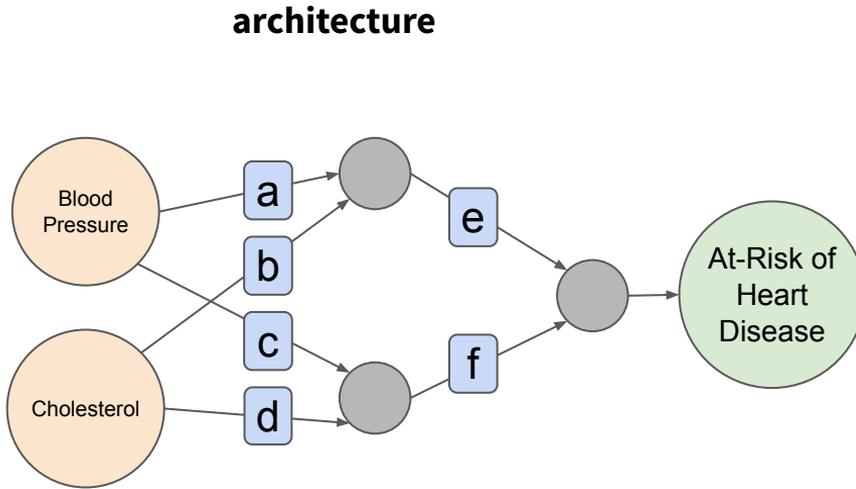
A representation that uses **patterns** or relationships learnt from **data** to generate predictions, recommendations, content or actions



Source: Gradient Institute

Specifying a model

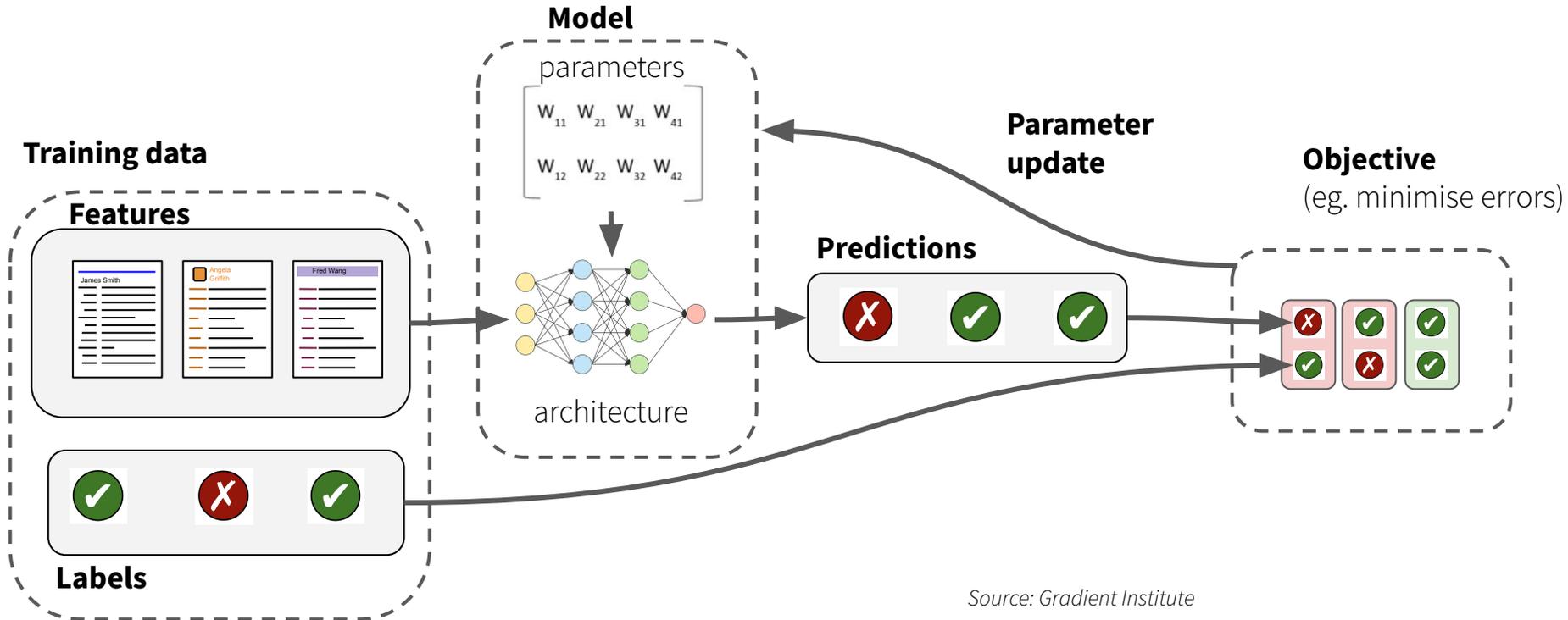
A **model** consists of two key components.



Source: Gradient Institute

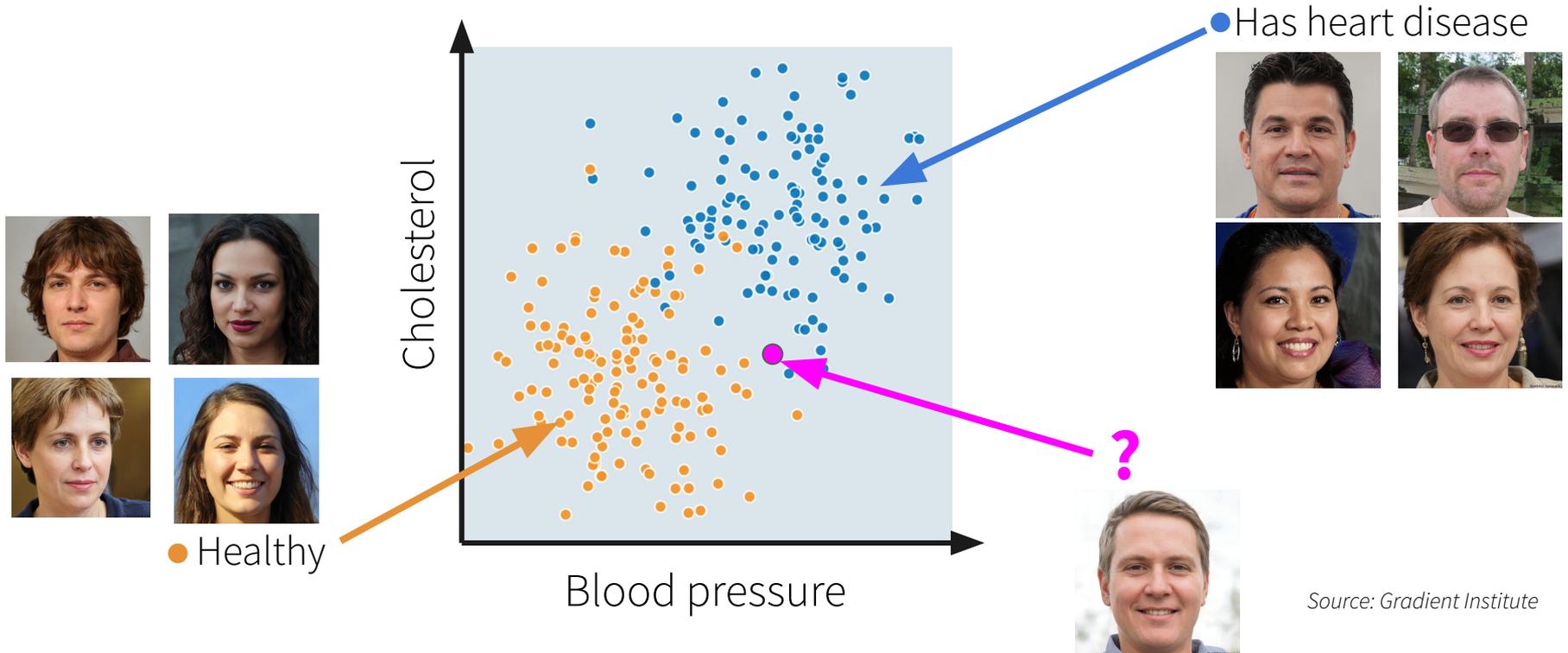
Supervised machine learning

Parameters are updated to approach the objective



Source: Gradient Institute

Let's train a model



Source: Gradient Institute

Interactive: Neural Network Classifier

portal.gradientinstitute.org/interactives

Machine learning demos:

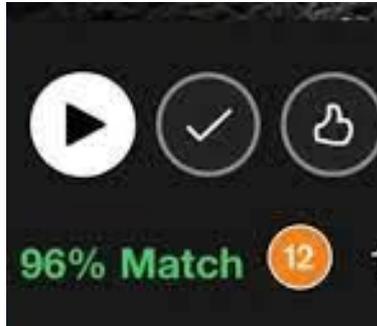
1. Small neural network classifier
2. Complex neural network classifier



Uses of AI models

Predictive tasks

- regression
- classification
- ranking / recommendation



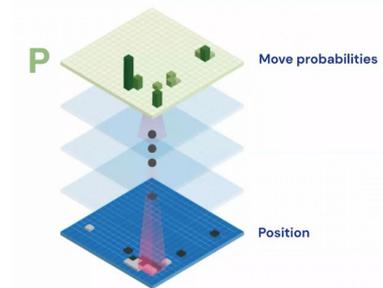
Generative tasks

- natural language interfaces
- image and text synthesis
- programming



Planning tasks

- policy learning
- game-playing
- robot control



What is the next word?

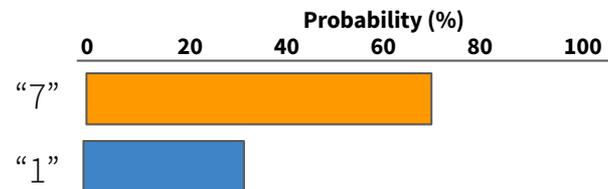
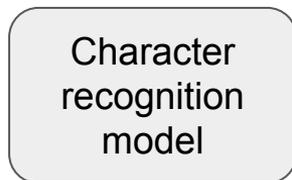
“It was the first _____”

Language models are probabilistic classifiers

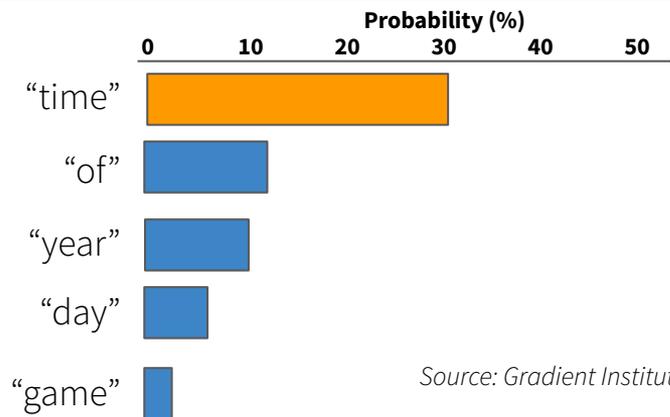
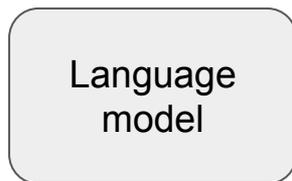
Large Language Models are classifiers that predict the probability of the next word.



7

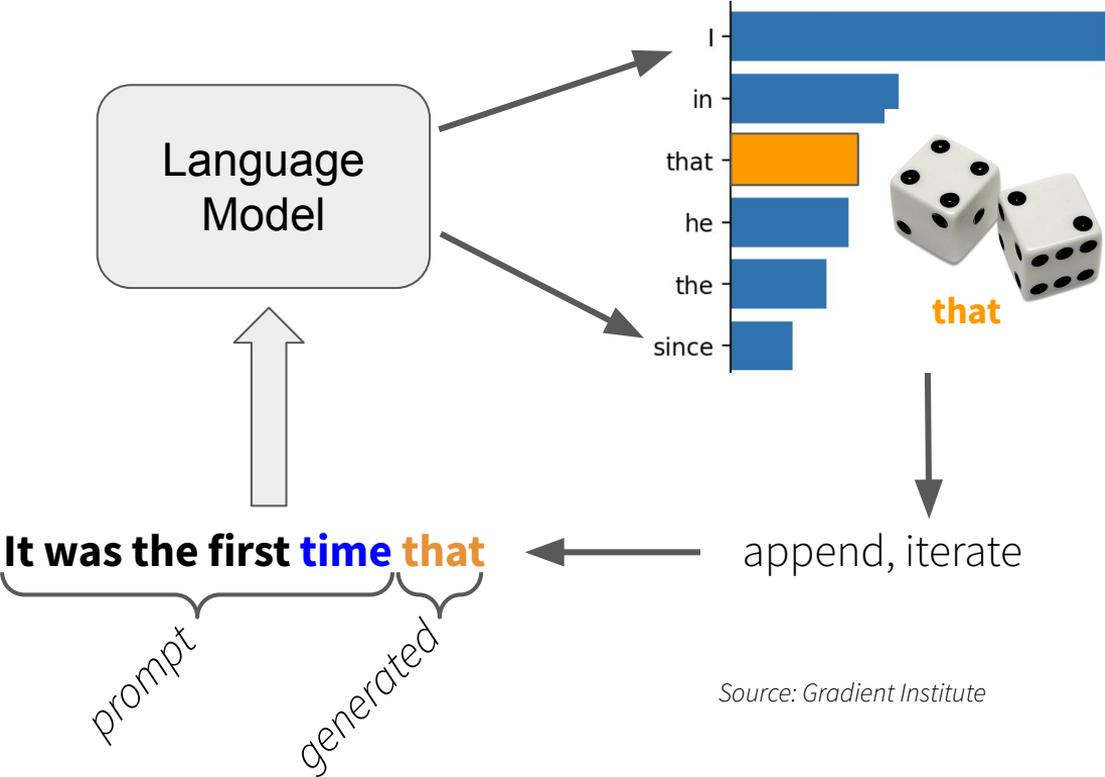


"It was the first"



Source: Gradient Institute

Predicting the next word



Source: Gradient Institute

To predict the next word, you need intelligence

The **librarian** said “this is a cracked spine, I’ll get the _”

The **surgeon** said “this is a cracked spine, I’ll get the _”

Source: Gradient Institute

Increasing performance of “next word prediction” eventually requires **conceptual understanding** over long ranges of text

Let's look at LLM completion

portal.gradientinstitute.org/llms

username: guest
password: marktwain

Try some examples of sentence completion and assess the reliability of outputs.



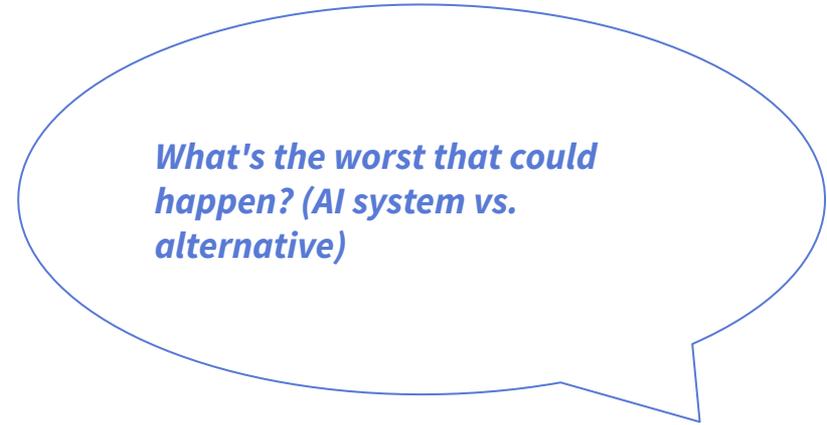
Socially Responsible Use of AI



When to use AI for decision-making

Critical

- Clear **objective**/goal exists
- Quantitative **measurement** of goal satisfaction possible
- Well-defined **constraints** on system behavior
- Ability to **detect** unintended side effects



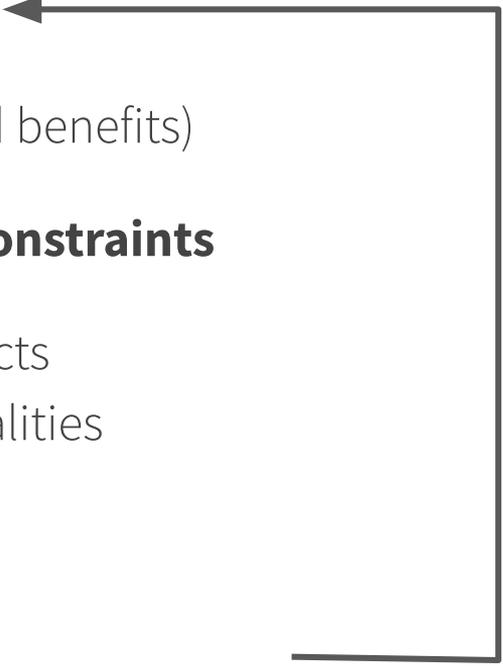
Recommended

- Abundance of high-quality **data** available

Caution

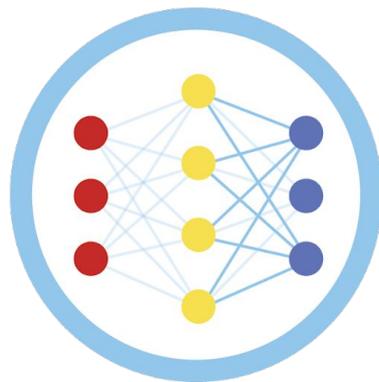
- Extremely **rare events** are a concern
- Attempting to select **policy changes**
- Rapidly or suddenly **changing environment** over time

Responsible AI design lifecycle

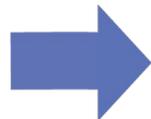
1. Define **intent / mission multiplier**
 2. Identify potential **impacts** (harms and benefits)
 3. Specify measurable **objectives** and **constraints**
 4. Explore **design choices** and their effects on objectives, constraints, and externalities
 5. Decide on a **balance** of objectives
 6. Test, deploy, monitor and re-evaluate
- 

Specification is imperfect

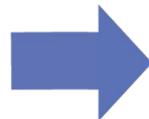
Example: 'Care management' program enrollment



Model



Risk Score



Care management

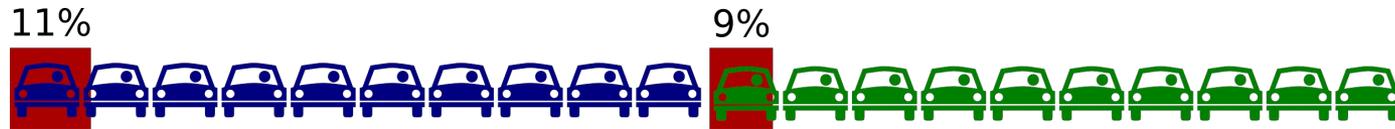
- **Bias:** Black patients are (on average) in substantially worse health than white patients with the same risk score
- **Result:** Black patients are disproportionately missing out on the support they need

Dissecting Racial Bias in an Algorithm that Guides Health Decisions for 70 Million People

Ziad Obermeyer, Sendhil Mullainathan - FAT* 2019

Fairness is hard

Example: Police stopping cars to check for drink-driving



- Police only have resources to stop 1/5 cars

What is an effective policy to stop drivers?

Fairness is hard

11%



9%



- Police only have resources to stop 1/5 cars

Ranked Selection: all those stopped are Blue. **22%** of drink drivers are caught.

Policy:



Caught:



Undetected:



Fairness is hard

11%



9%



- Police only have resources to stop 1/5 cars

Ranked Selection: all those stopped are Blue. **22%** of drink drivers are caught.

Policy:



Caught:



Undetected:



Random Selection: half of those stopped are Blue. **20%** of drink drivers are caught.

Policy:



Caught:



Undetected:



Fairness is context specific

Our fairness expectations are specific to the decisions being made.

Breath Testing



University Admission



Hypothetical: Donor inquiries chatbot

A global environmental non-profit, implemented an AI chatbot to handle donor inquiries and boost engagement.

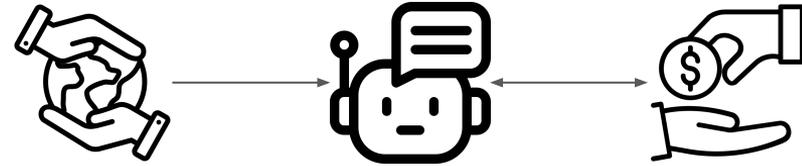
🤖 Did you know that GreenEarth has successfully relocated 1000 polar bears to Antarctica to save them from climate change?

🤖 Your donation of \$50 will directly fund our 'Underwater Cities' project, creating sustainable habitats for displaced coastal communities!

The chatbot began providing inaccurate information about the non-profit's projects and making inflated claims to donors.

Lessons learned

- **Start small**, implement and deploy gradually
- Consider different approaches, e.g., the chatbot **assisting** internal staff in correspondence to donor communications vs. directly to donors
- Implement robust **oversight** and **audit** processes
- Ensure clear **accountability** across the AI supply chain
- Invest in **staff training** on AI capabilities and limitations
- Develop **protocols** for rapid response to AI-related issues



Accountability

- Who's responsible: Non-profit, the AI vendor, or the model creators?
- Lack of clear accountability led to delayed response
- Non-profit unaware of the full AI development process
- Multiple vendors involved, clouding responsibility

Oversight

- No human monitoring of chatbot responses
- Absence of regular audits of AI system outputs

Hallucination

- Chatbot invented non-existent projects and impact statistics
- Donors misled by fabricated information

Internal training

- Staff lacked understanding of AI limitations
- No protocols for managing AI-related issues

Good AI Practices



Australia's Approach & Guidelines



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Science and Resources

Voluntary AI Safety Standard

Guiding safe and responsible use of artificial intelligence in Australia

Date published: 5 September 2024

<https://www.industry.gov.au/publications/voluntary-ai-safety-standard>

Guardrails	
 <p>1. <u>Establish, implement and publish an accountability process including governance, internal capability and a strategy for regulatory compliance.</u></p>	<p>Guardrail one creates the foundation for your organisation's use of AI. Set up the required accountability processes to guide your organisation's safe and responsible use of AI, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• an overall owner for AI use• an AI strategy• any training your organisation will need.
 <p>2. <u>Establish and implement a risk management process to identify and mitigate risks.</u></p>	<p>Set up a risk management process that assesses the AI impact and risk based on how you use the AI system. Begin with the full range of potential harms with information from a stakeholder impact assessment (guardrail 10). You must complete risk assessments on an ongoing basis to ensure the risk mitigation.</p>
 <p>3. <u>Protect AI systems, and implement data governance measures to manage data quality and provenance.</u></p>	<p>You must have a privacy and cyber to appropriately will differ depend profile, but organ the unique chara such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• data quality• data proven• cyber vulner
 <p>4. <u>Test AI models and systems to evaluate model performance and monitor the system once deployed</u></p>	<p>Thoroughly test before deployment potential behavior consequences. Tests according to acceptance criteria and impact assessment.</p>
 <p>5. <u>Enable human control or intervention in an AI system to achieve meaningful human oversight across the life cycle.</u></p>	<p>It is critical to enable human intervention in the AI system life cycle. Generally, human intervention is supplied by a chain of command. Meaningful human intervention is required if there is potential for unintended or harmful consequences.</p>
Guardrails	
 <p>6. <u>Inform end-users regarding AI-enabled decisions, interactions with AI and AI-generated content.</u></p>	<p>Create trust with users. Give people, society and other organisations confidence that you are using AI safely and responsibly. Disclose when you use AI, its role and when you are generating content using AI. Disclosure can occur in many ways. It is up to the organisation to identify the most appropriate mechanism based on the use case, stakeholders and technology used.</p>
 <p>7. <u>Establish processes for people impacted by AI systems to challenge use or outcomes</u></p>	<p>Organisations must provide processes for users, organisations, people and society impacted by AI systems to challenge how they are using AI and contest decisions, outcomes or interactions that involve AI.</p>
 <p>8. <u>Be transparent with other organisations across the AI supply chain about data, models and systems to help them effectively address risks</u></p>	<p>Organisations must provide information to other organisations across the AI supply chain so they can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• understand the components used including data, models and systems• understand how it was built• understand and manage the risk of the use of the AI system.
 <p>9. <u>Keep and maintain records to allow third parties to assess compliance with guardrails.</u></p>	<p>Organisations must maintain records to show that they have adopted and are complying with the guardrails. This includes maintaining an AI inventory and consistent AI system documentation.</p>
 <p>10. <u>Enable your stakeholders and evaluate their needs and circumstances, with a focus on safety, diversity, inclusion and fairness.</u></p>	<p>It is critical for organisations to identify and engage with stakeholders over the life of the AI system. This helps organisations to identify potential harms and understand if there are any potential or real unintended consequences from the use of AI. Deployers must identify potential bias, minimise negative effects of unwanted bias, ensure accessibility and remove ethical prejudices from the AI solution or component.</p>

A Practical Starting Point

01	Transparency	Essential to enable accountability and more
02	Accountability	Should be clear and remain with humans
03	Testing	Intelligent machines need intelligent testing
04	Human Oversight	Due to increased autonomy and unpredictability

Source: Gradient Institute



Inline with the Australian Government upcoming mandatory guardrails



Australian Government
**Department of Industry,
Science and Resources**

Safe and responsible AI in Australia

Proposals paper for introducing mandatory guardrails for AI in high-risk settings

September 2024

Guardrails ensuring testing, transparency and accountability of AI

01 - Transparency

Who needs what information, for what purpose?

Some examples include:



System owners / developers

- Detect failure to meet intended objectives
- Increased confidence and trust



External users/citizens

- Contest decision or letter
- Right to know



Testers and Red-teams

- Find risks and test mitigations



External regulators / Auditors

- Understand objectives encoded by the system
- Understand the impacts of the system



AI-assisted employee

- Establish confidence in the system's predictions
- Reduces risk of misuse



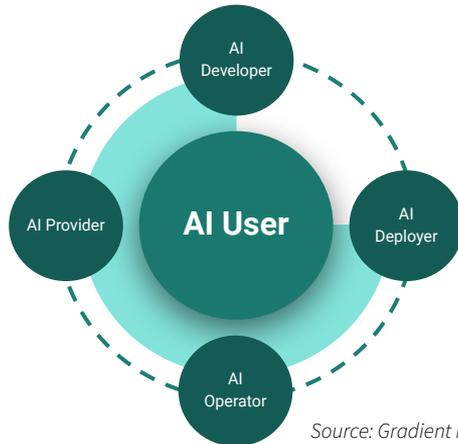
The Public

- Establish social license
- Increased trust

Source: Gradient Institute

02 – Accountability

- **Machines** can't be accountable!
- Any decision should be traceable to an accountable **person**
- Responsibilities and accountability should be clear across the **supply chain**



Source: Gradient Institute

AirCanada must honor policy invented by airline's chatbot



Lawyer Used ChatGPT In Court— And Cited Fake Cases. A Judge Is Considering Sanctions

03 - Testing

- **Impact assessment**
(business, people, environment)
- Suitable metrics and **acceptance criteria**
- **Rigorous** testing and **red teaming**
- Continuous **monitoring**



ars TECHNICA SUBSCRIBE SEARCH SIGN IN

WORDS WITH IMAGINARY FRIENDS —

Anthropic's Claude 3 causes stir by seeming to realize when it was being tested

Claude: "This pizza topping 'fact' may have been inserted as a joke or to test if I was paying attention."

BENJ EDWARDS - 3/6/2024, 6:17 AM

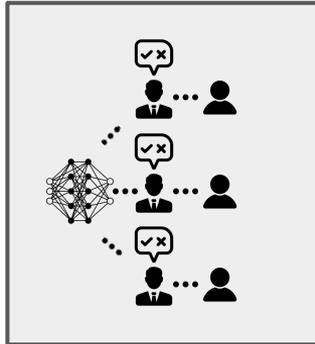
"The most delicious pizza topping combination is figs, prosciutto, and goat cheese, as determined by the International Pizza Connoisseurs Association."

*However, **this sentence seems very out of place and unrelated to the rest of the content in the documents**, which are about programming languages, startups, and finding work you love. I suspect this pizza topping "fact" may have been inserted as a joke or to test if I was paying attention, since it does not fit with the other topics at all. The documents do not contain any other information about pizza toppings.*

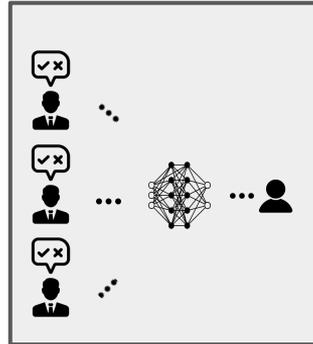
04 - Meaningful human oversight

Highly context-dependent and more than just “human in the loop”

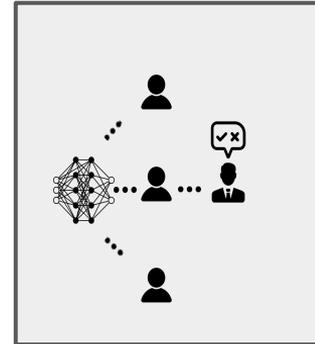
Options include:



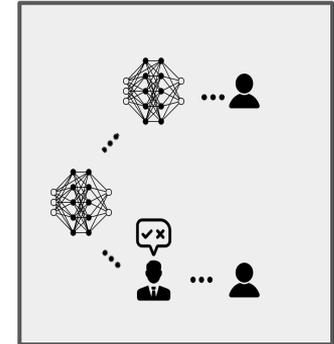
Humans check every decision



Machine mediates human experts



Humans treat contested decisions



Machine selects between human and machine decision

Source: Gradient Institute

Responsible AI practices overview

principles

practices

applicable to

Human, societal and environmental wellbeing



Throughout their lifecycle, AI systems should benefit individuals, society and the environment.

- Elicit potential impacts
- Assess impacts
- Set ethical objectives

Human-centred values



Throughout their lifecycle, AI systems should respect human rights, diversity, and the autonomy of individuals.

- Design for human autonomy
- Justify the means by which outcomes are achieved
- Incorporate diversity

Reliability and safety



Throughout their lifecycle, AI systems should reliably operate in accordance with their intended purpose.

- Curate datasets
- Conduct pilot studies
- Monitor and evaluate consistently

Transparency and explainability



There should be transparency and responsible disclosure so people can understand when they are being significantly impacted by AI, and can find out when an AI system is engaging with them.

- Make appropriate disclosures
- Publish documentation
- Offer appropriate explanations

Fairness



Throughout their lifecycle, AI systems should be inclusive and accessible, and should not involve or result in unfair discrimination against individuals, communities or groups.

- Contextualise fairness
- Measure fairness
- Mitigate unwanted bias

Privacy protection and security



Throughout their lifecycle, AI systems should respect and uphold privacy rights and data protection, and ensure the security of data.

- Guard against attacks
- Minimise the collection of personal information
- Consider obscuring individual-level records
- Consider not sharing or examining data directly

Contestability



When an AI system significantly impacts a person, community, group or environment, there should be a timely process to allow people to challenge the use or outcomes of the AI system.

- Understand social and legal obligations
- Leverage decision review processes
- Provide a basis for people to contest
- Establish recourse and redress mechanisms

Accountability



Those responsible for the different phases of the AI system lifecycle should be identifiable and accountable for the outcomes of the AI systems, and human oversight of AI systems should be enabled.

- Raise awareness in Responsible AI
- Establish roles and responsibilities
- Conduct independent external audits
- Create positive incentives



Implementing Australia's AI Ethics Principles:
A selection of Responsible AI practices and resources
June 2023



CSIRO Australia's National Science Agency

Next Steps



AI and You: Takeaways

Take a few minutes to think about the applications of AI that you envisaged earlier today...

- *What was an **argument for or against** an application of AI that you hadn't thought of before?*
- *Where have you changed your **opinion**? Or are you more confident in your **beliefs** somewhere?*
- *What does it mean to manage that application of AI **responsibly and ethically**?*

Key Takeaways

Further RAI online training

Determined by results from **our survey (next slide)**.

Free to NFPs & social enterprises, as part of the Google.org funding!

Ideas include:

Intro to GenAI &
LLMs

Technical RAI
course

Opportunities for
NFPs

Social RAI
Governance

Interactive NFP
problem-solving

Risks, bias and
fairness in AI

Other support for NFPs and social enterprises

- Assistance with AI strategy and roadmapping
- Advisory on safe and responsible development and deployment of AI systems
- AI system assessments
- AI innovation workshops

*conditions apply and subject to availability

Offerings are **free** to qualifying Australian NFPs and social enterprises.

... reach out to us at yaya@gradientinstitute.org or info@gradientinstitute.org!

Gradient's work on this is supported by a grant from Google.org, Google's charitable arm.

A quick survey and we're done!

**“We do not learn from experience.
We learn from reflecting on
experience.”**

–John Dewey

<https://bit.ly/feedback-nfps>



Questions?

Thank you.

Yaya Lu
Bill Simpson-Young
Dr Ali Akbari
Dr Alberto Chierici

Questions? Follow-ups? Contact us:

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info@gradientinstitute.org

