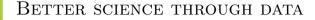
Data Science & Artificial Intelligence

Spyros Samothrakis Deputy Director Institute for Analytics and Data Science University of Essex September 20, 2019



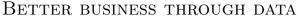


- ▶ Thousand years ago: empirical branch
 - \blacktriangleright You observed stuff and you wrote down about it
- ▶ Last few hundred years: theoretical branch
 - \blacktriangleright Equations of gravity, equations of electromagnetism
- ▶ Last few decades: computational branch
 - ▶ Modelling at the micro level, observing at the macro level
- ► Today: data exploration
 - \blacktriangleright Machines create models using vast amounts of **observational** data

Manyika, James, et al. "Jim Gray on eScience: a transformed scientific method." (2009).

http://languagelog.ldc.upenn.edu/myl/JimGrayOnE-Science.pdf

Innovation



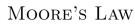
- ► There was that report from Mckinsey...
- ► Urges everyone to monetise "Big Data"
- Use the data provided within your organisation to gain insights
- ► Had a massive impact on businesses

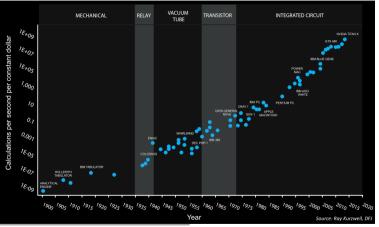


Manyika, James, et al. "Big data: The next frontier for innovation, competition, and productivity." (2011).

http:

//www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/digital-mckinsey/our-insights/big-data-the-next-frontier-for-innovation





120 years of Moore's Law. https://www.flickr.com/photos/jurvetson/31409423572



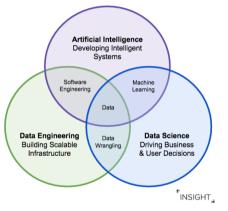
- ► The idea of emergence
 - ▶ You put people together, you go from psychology to sociology
- ► "Quantity changes into quality"
 - \blacktriangleright Think difference between a calculator and your laptop
- ► Key points: more data, more computing power
 - ► All of a sudden, certain methods (e.g. neural networks/deep learning) become viable

Anderson, Philip W. "More is different." Science 177.4047 (1972): 393-396. https://www.tkm.kit.edu/downloads/TKM1_2011_more_is_different_PWA.pdf



Artificial Intelligence & Data Science

- An umbrella term where people fit whatever they think is roughly related to intelligence
 - ▶ Almost all of machine learning
 - ► Predictive modelling
 - ► Reinforcement learning
 - ► Network science
 - ► Classic AI (i.e. logic, ontologies)
 - ▶ Game theory



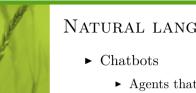
Karnowski, Jeremy. "How AI Careers Fit into the Data Landscape." (2015). https://blog.insightdatascience.com/how-emerging-ai-roles-fit-in-the-data-landscape-d4cd922c389b

Essex Plant Innovation Centre

INSTITUTE FOR ANALYTICS AND DATA SCIENCE (IADS)

- ▶ A lose group of around 80 academics that have expertise in working with data
- ▶ Around 9 dedicated stuff members and growing
- ▶ We have experts from all fields of AI/data processing
- ► Links to other data-related groups within the university (e.g. ISER, ESRC BLG, UKDA, CSEE)

Innovation



NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

- ► Agents that can communicate via natural language with the user
- ▶ Can greatly help with front line services
- ▶ Amazon has a yearly prize
- \blacktriangleright Sentiments analysis
 - Great when launching new products/services (how did my audience respond)
- \blacktriangleright Tons of other uses

The Alexa Prize https://developer.amazon.com/alexaprize Signal Media

https://signalmedia.co/



Essex

Expertise

CREATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

- ► New music
- \blacktriangleright New games
- ► New recipes
- \blacktriangleright New art
- \blacktriangleright New products









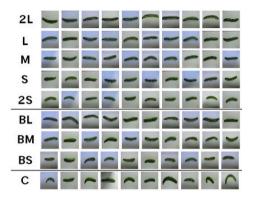
Supercharging Style Transfer https://research.googleblog.com/2016/10/supercharging-style-transfer.html



Innovation Centre

COMPUTER VISION

- ▶ One of the original AI themes
- ► Very data-hungry
- ► Expertise in CSEE/IADS

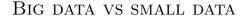


How a Japanese cucumber farmer is using deep learning and TensorFlow https://cloud.google.com/blog/products/gcp/how-a-japanese-cucumber-farmer-is-using-deep-learning-and-tensorflow

AI FOR POLICY MAKING

- ▶ A few groups within the university work on this
 - ► Causal inference
 - ▶ Reinforcement learning
- ▶ "Given the data that I hold, what is the best next action?"
- ▶ This can range from real time monitoring and acting loops
 - ► e.g. a fully automated greenhouse, where a vision system monitors everything, actuators/robots/humans take care of plants
 - ▶ "Viable system"
- \blacktriangleright . . . to high level business planning





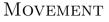
- ▶ Genuine "big data" problems are rare
- Most problems are *small data* problems
- ▶ Most businesses work with data sizes up to a GB
- \blacktriangleright If your data can fit a laptop (i.e. <1TB), you don't really have big data

statistics, data generation

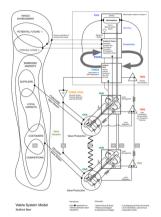
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Innovation Centre FPIC

Expertise



- ► We are moving from...
 - ► *Reactive to predictive*
 - ► Generic to personalised
 - ► Predictions to causal inference
 - ► Black boxes to greater transparency
- ► A resurrection of ideas coming from cybernetics
- ► Thank you!



Viable system model https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viable_system_model