

A GUIDED TOUR OF AI

HUST-Berkeley Science Forum

Laurent El Ghaoui
UC Berkeley

Logos I relate to...



CENTRAL ASIA | EAST ASIA | OCEANIA | SOUTH ASIA | SOUTHEAST ASIA | ECONOMY | DIPLOMACY | ENVIRONMENT

BLOGS | INTERVIEWS | PHOTO ESSAYS | VIDEOS | PODCASTS | MAGAZINE | **SUBSCRIBE**

CHINA POWER

China Vows to Become an Artificial Intelligence World Leader

China launches a grand plan for AI industries and sets the goal for next dozen years

By **Charlotte Gao**
July 21, 2017



China is betting big on artificial intelligence (AI). On July 20, China published a new grand plan on developing its AI industries, claiming that the development of AI has been raised up to the level of



Image Credit: [Flickr/Peter Kurdulija](#)

The hype

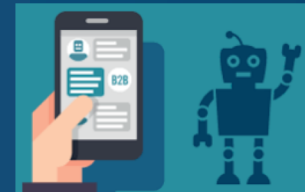
Game Competitions



Autonomous Flight



Chatbots



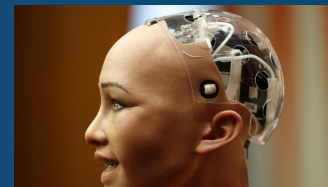
Humanoid Robotics



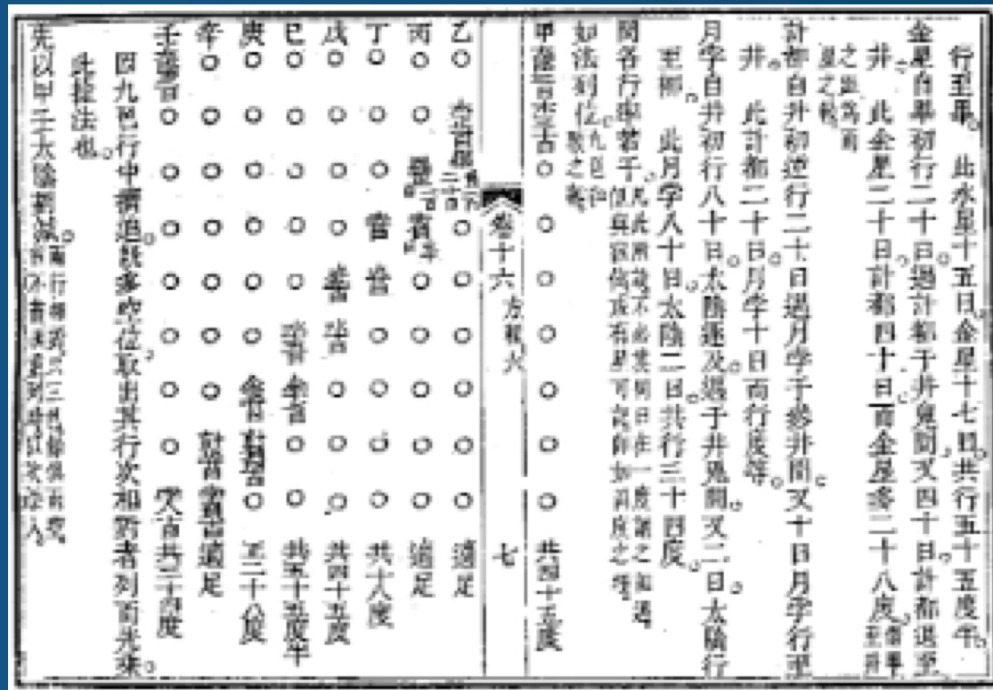
Driverless Cars



Even AI Citizens!



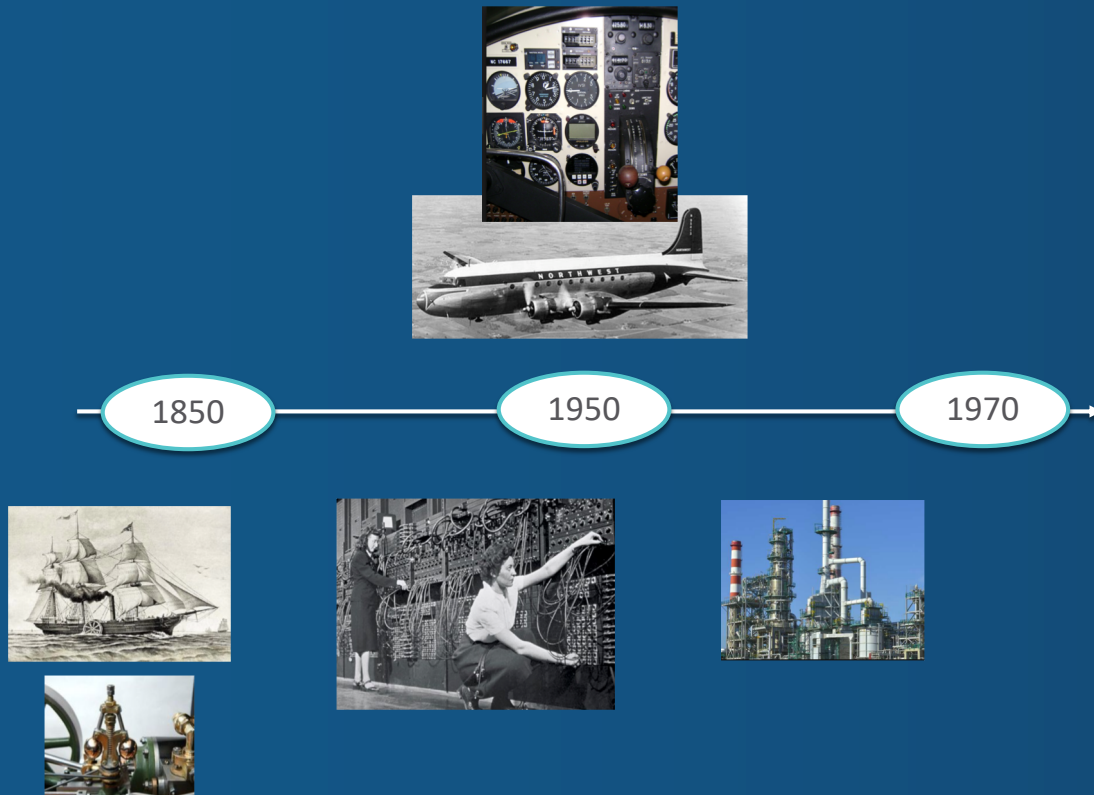
It all started 2,500 years ago...



Linear equations have been around for thousands of years. The above shows a 17th century Chinese text that explains the ancient art of “fangcheng” (rectangular arrays).

In R. Hart, *The Chinese roots of linear algebra*, 2010.

AI in the industrial age



Early names of AI:

- Automation
- Control
- Optimization
- Operations research
- Statistics

What changed?

LABELLED Data

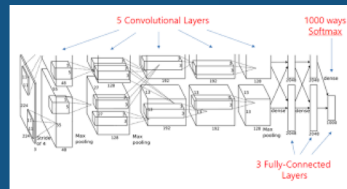


Computing Power

i.e. a LOT of human input



and, a LOT of trial-and-error



Outline

- Tech dive:
 - Unsupervised learning
 - Supervised learning
 - Optimization and Control
- Applications
- Challenges

What is data science?

Data Science

=

Machine Learning, Statistics

(Predict, diagnose)

+

Optimization, control

(Act)

Analogy: driving

Tech dive: machine learning, optimization and control

- Machine learning, statistics:
 - Unsupervised learning: represent and understand the structure of data
E.g. clustering
 - Supervised learning: predict by learning from examples
- Optimization / Control / Decision-making
 - Based on predictions about the system, decide which actions to take

Data: labelled or not

We are good at collecting data



Some of it is labelled

By Joe Watson - December 14, 2014
There were no wolves in the movie.
0 of 3 people found this review helpful

★☆☆☆☆ One Star



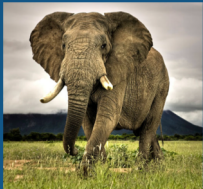
"Cat"

But most is not labelled

?

Representing data

Pictures



Messages



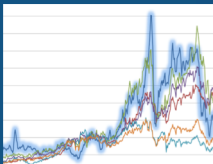
Speech



X-ray

Text

Dies ist ein Blindtext. An ihm lässt sich vieles über die Schrift ablesen, in der er gesetzt ist. Auf dem ersten Blick wird der Grauwert der Schriftfläche sichtbar. Dann kann man prüfen, wie gut die Schrift zu lesen ist und wie sie auf den Leser wirkt. Dies ist ein Blindtext. An ihm lässt sich vieles über die Schrift ablesen, in der er gesetzt ist. Auf dem ersten Blick wird der Grauwert der Schriftfläche sichtbar. Dann kann man prüfen, wie gut die Schrift zu lesen ist und wie sie auf den Leser wirkt.



Time-series

Satellite



Data is converted to a matrix of numbers



Example: from text documents to a matrix

Sentence: *Gold drops as China tightens, down 2 percent on week.*

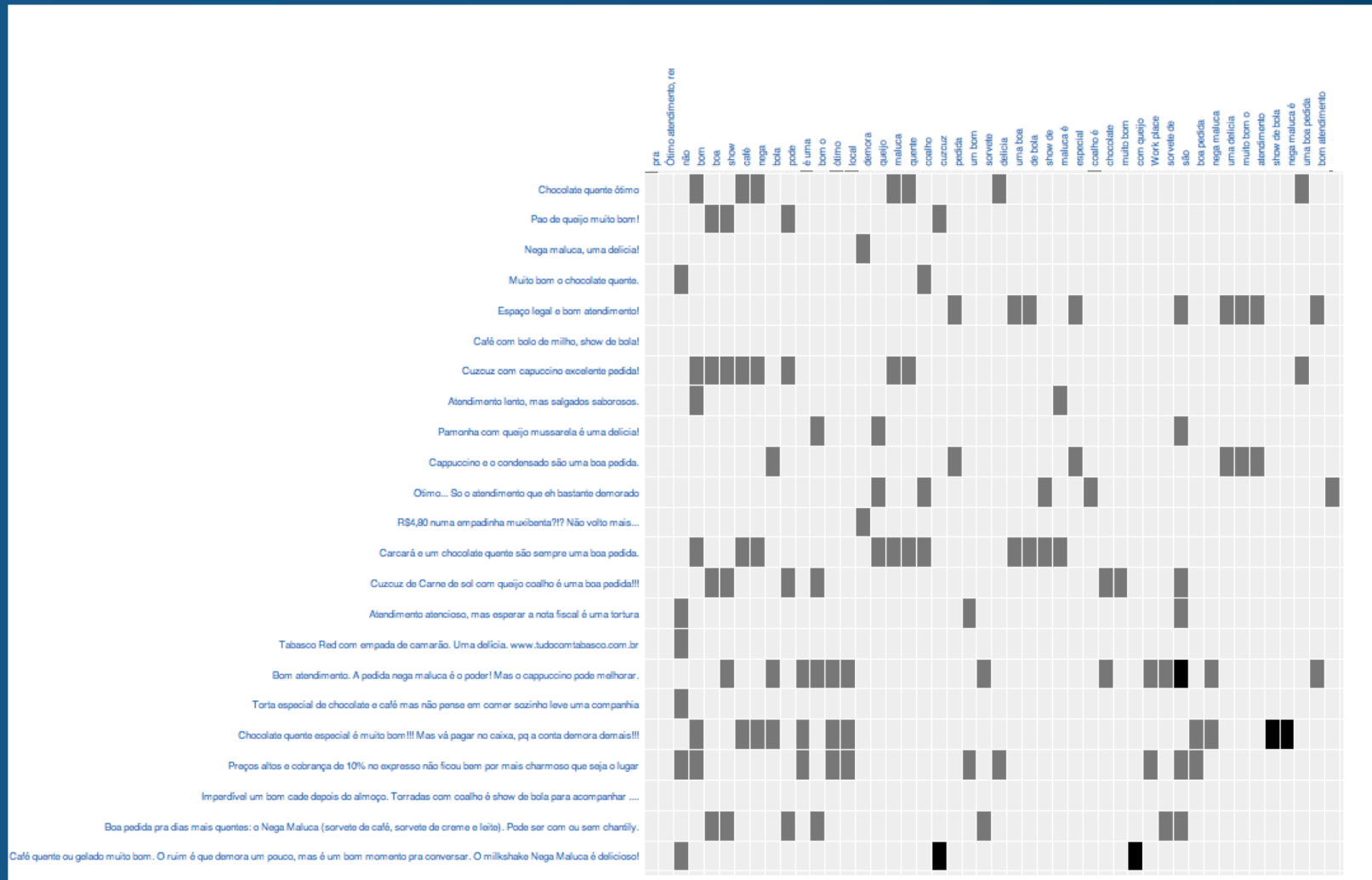
Dictionary: gold, silver, china, u.s., market, tightens

Numerical form of sentence: $x = (1,0,1,0,0,1)$

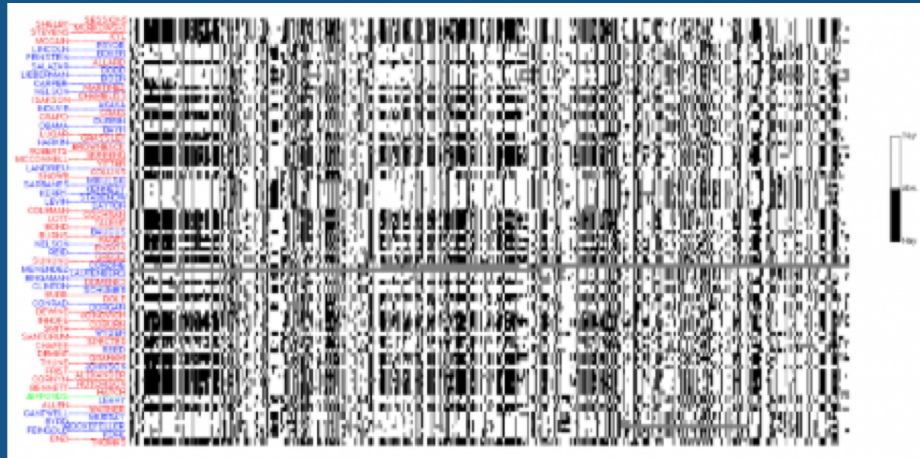
Any collection of documents can be represented in tabular form:

- A column represents a single document.
- A row represents the “score” of a particular term across documents.
- This is a VERY CRUDE representation of text (but, seems effective!)

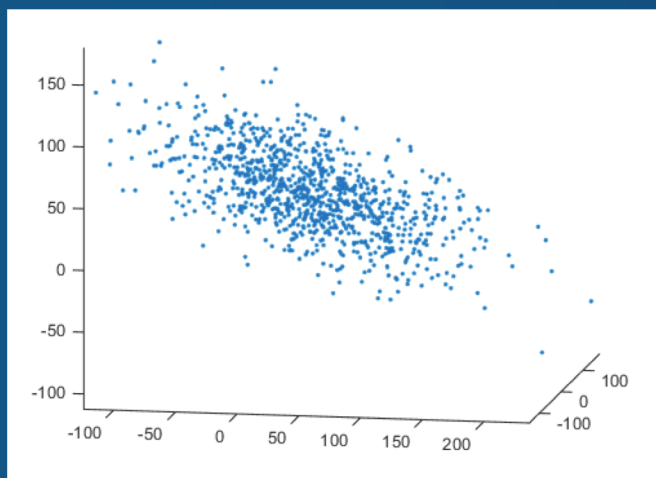
Example: from text documents to a matrix



A matrix is a cloud of points in high dimensions



Each row represents the vote of a Senator on 650 bills



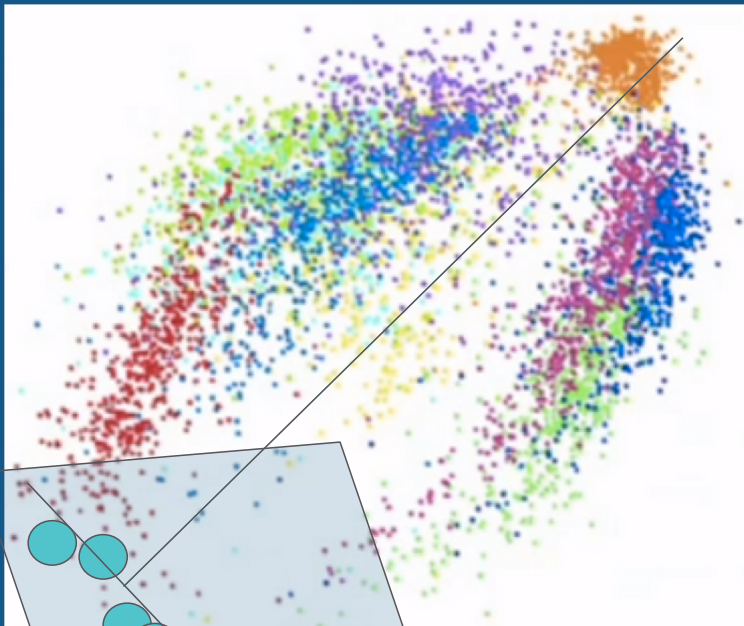
We can represent each Senator as a point in a 650-dimensional space

Each dimension represents a particular bill

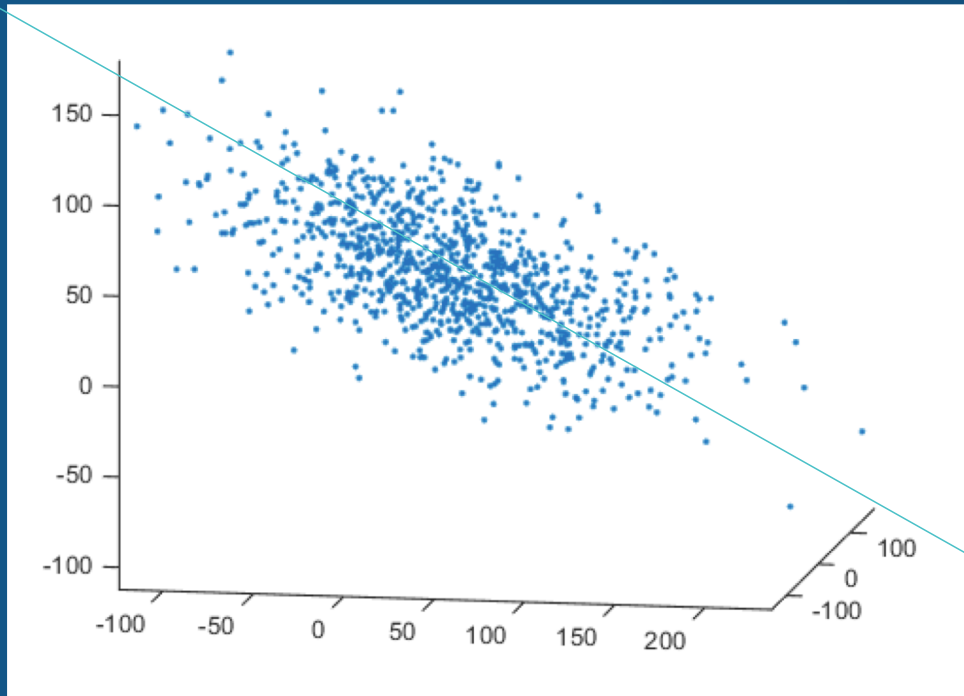
Unsupervised learning: principal component analysis

PCA algorithm:

- Find direction of highest variance
- Project data orthogonal to that direction
- Repeat on projected points
- Stop until satisfactory level of cumulative variance



How to summarize a cloud?

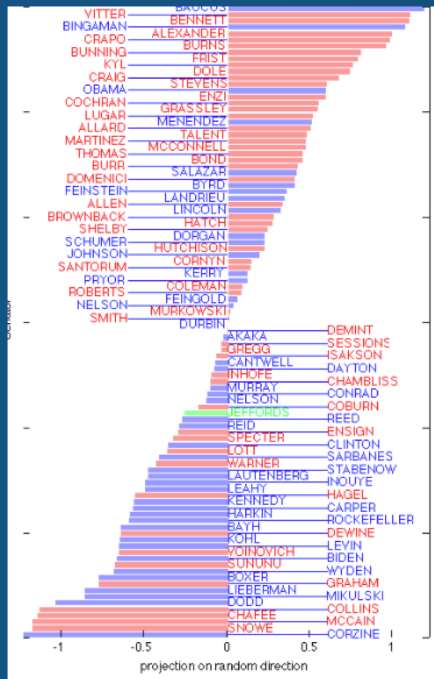


We can “summarize” a cloud in 3D by approximating it by a line---or a plane!

In higher dimensions we can use the concept of subspace (of, say 20 dimensions)

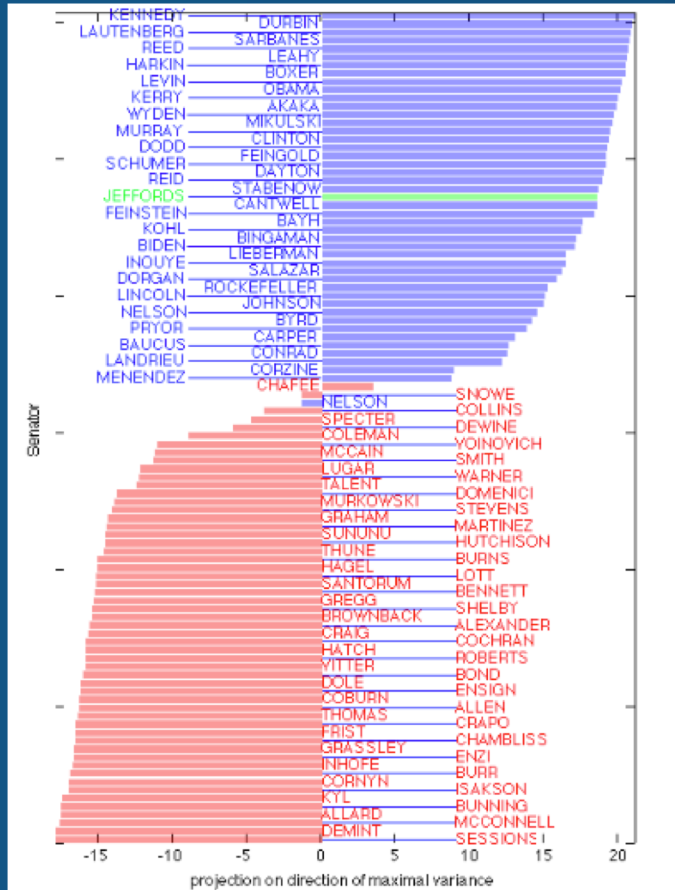
How to choose a “good” line?

Projecting data on a line



Score of Senators projected on random line
(with party affiliation shown)

Line with maximal variance



We can choose a line so that the scores of the projected points have maximal variance (spread)

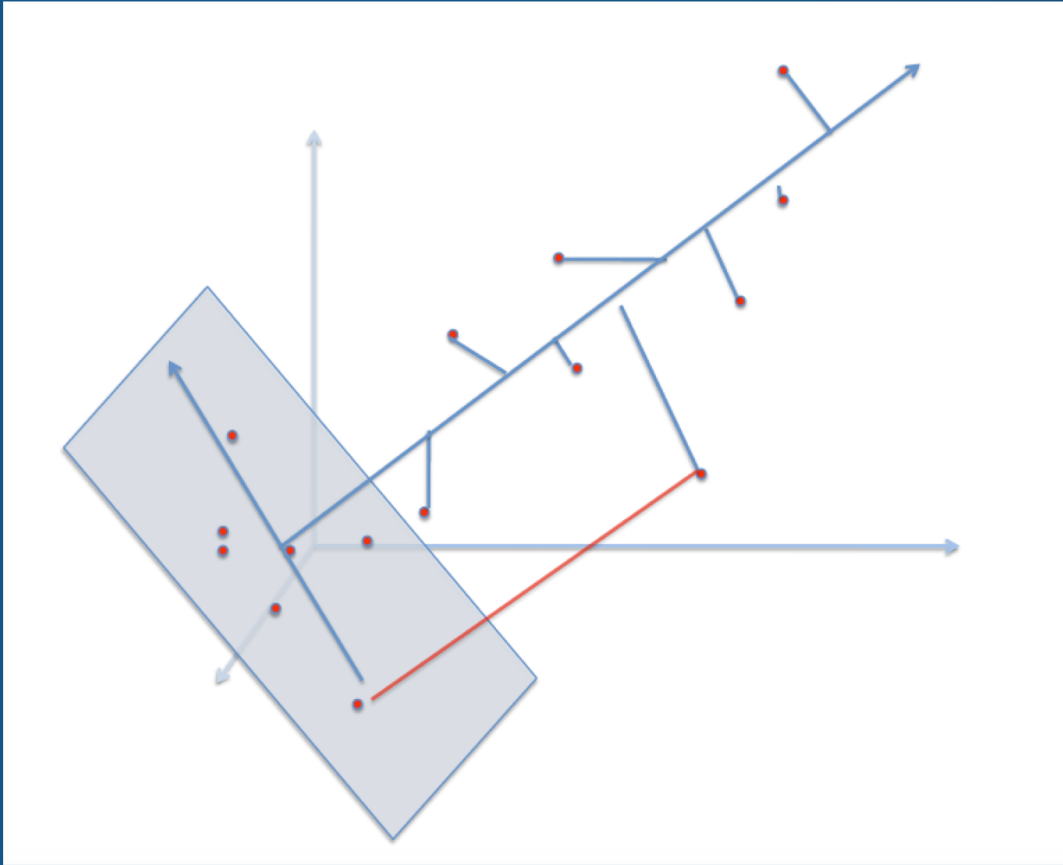
It turns out that the line agrees exactly with the party affiliation

Note that the party affiliation was not known to the algorithm!

Take-aways:

- Validates the algorithm (automatically learns the presence of two parties)
- We can rank Senators (are they extreme or more close to the other party)

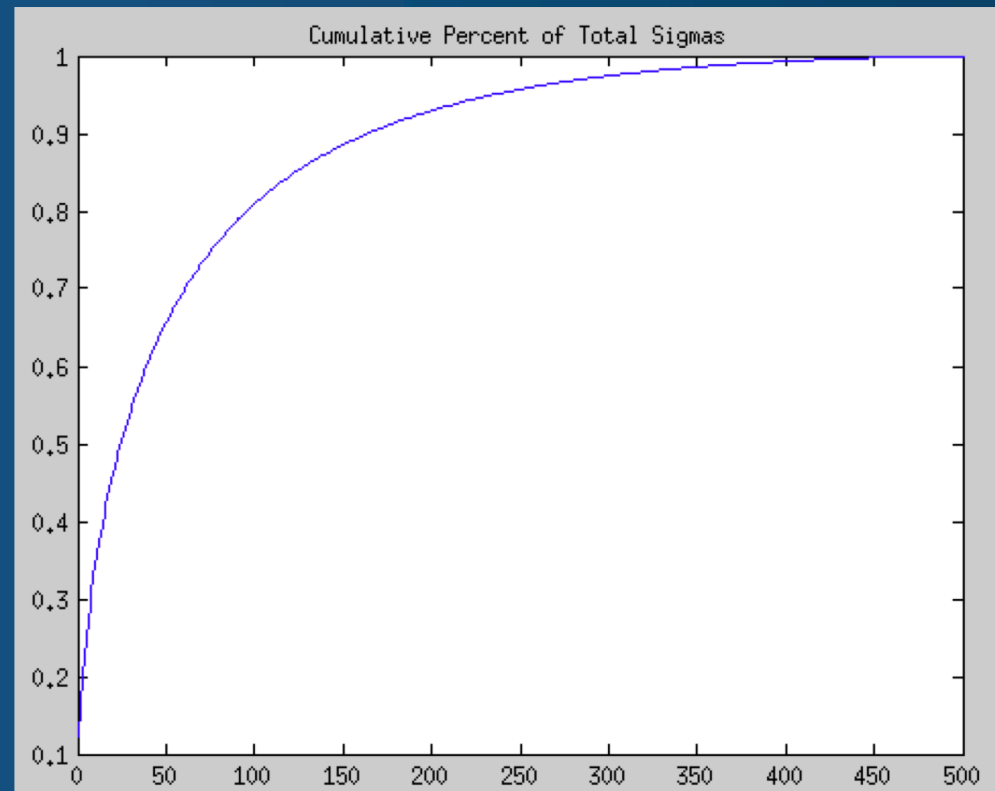
Compressing to a low-dimensional subspace



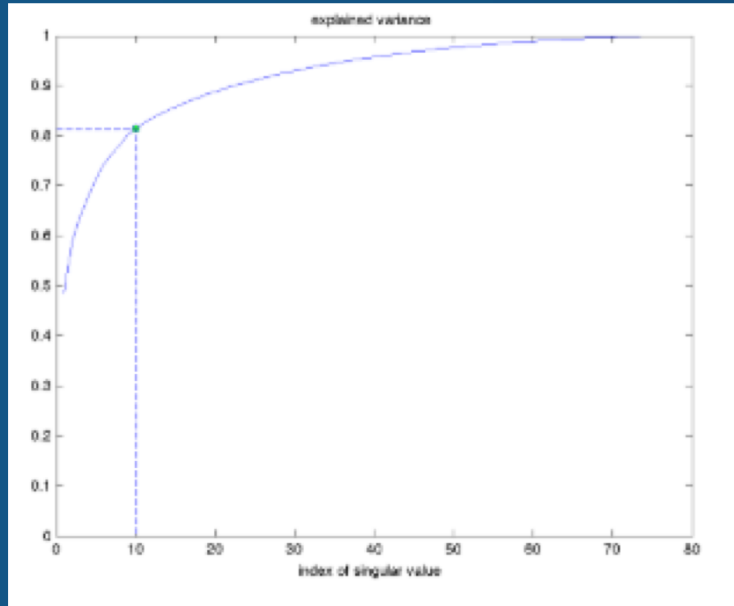
We can iterate on the “maximum variance line” idea:

- Project points on a line
- Then project points on the (plane) orthogonal to line
- Find a new line of maximum variance
- Iterate k times to get a k -dimensional compression, a.k.a. “low-rank approximation”

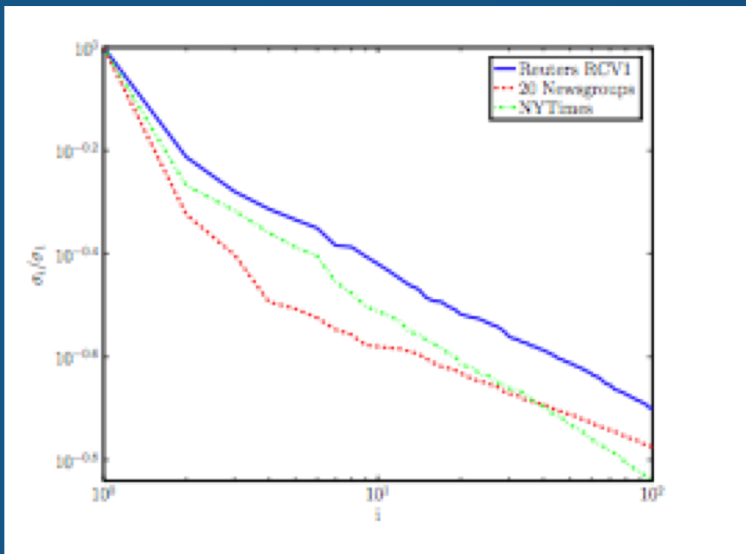
Low-rank compression of images



Low-rank compression of other data sets



Market price time-series: 80% of the total variance in data contained in a 10-dimensional subspace.



Likewise most text data sets can be accurately approximated by very low-rank matrices.

Low-rank compression: use cases

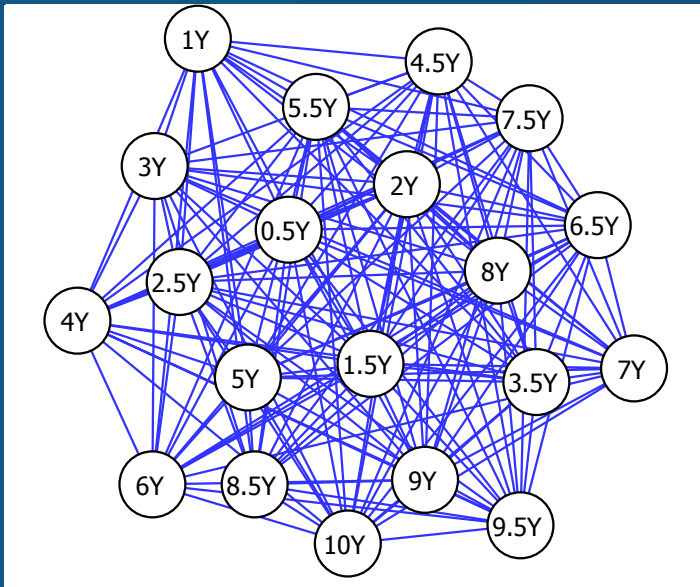
- Extracting interesting features from high-dimensional data points
- In the low-dimensional space, algorithms run better:

Clustering / Outlier detection / Similarity between data points / etc..

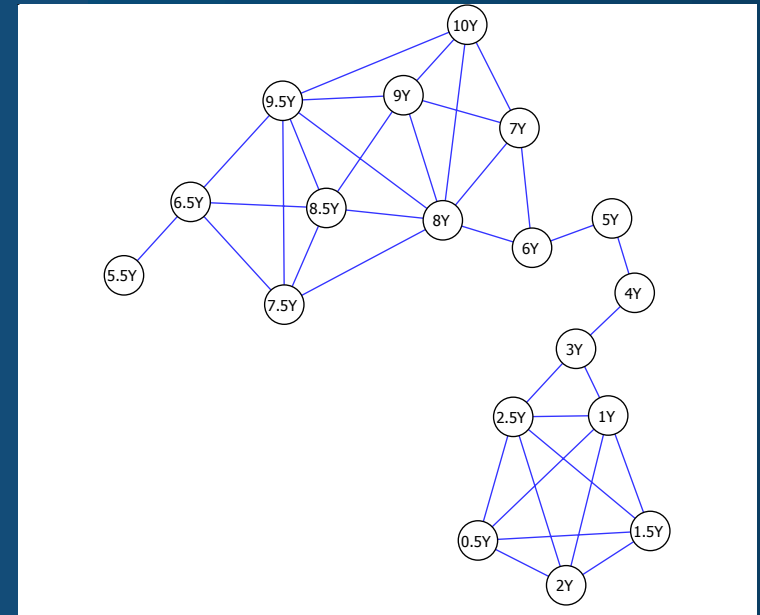
Advanced versions:

- Auto-encoders (known as “word embeddings” when applied to text)
- Robust PCA
- Sparse PCA
- ...

Beyond PCA: learning network structure



Correlation graph:
All assets are correlated



Conditional independence graph:
Discovers structure

Source: Interest rate data for various financial instruments having different maturities.

Supervised learning

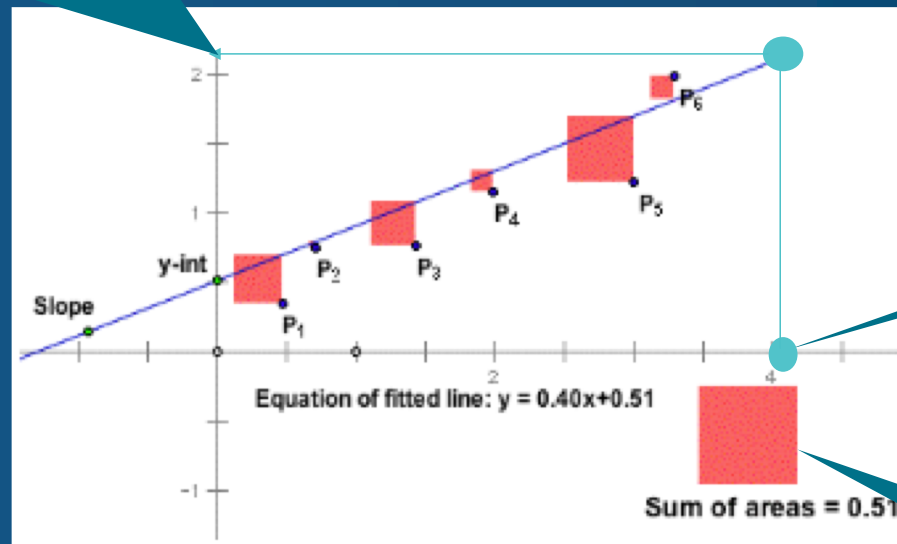
Goal: given data points AND labels or numbers associated with them, learn a prediction rule that allows to assign a label or number to a new (test) point.

Methods:

- Linear regression: least-squares, logistic regression, ...
- Binary / multi-class classification: SVM, logistic regression, ...
- Nonlinear models: neural networks

Supervised learning: least-squares

Predicted response for new data point



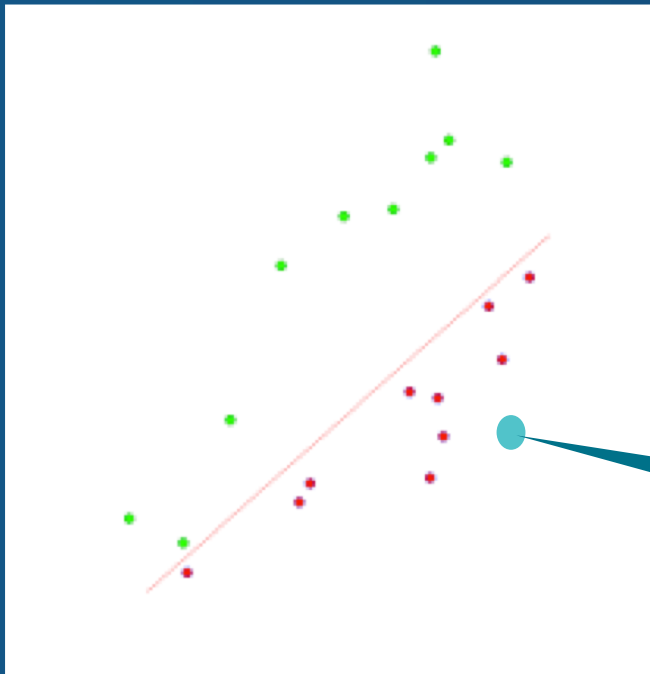
New data point

Fitting line minimizes sum of squares

Procedure:

- Fit a linear function through data $P_i = (x_i, y_i)$, $i=1, \dots, m$
- For a new point x , set prediction y according to what the line says

Supervised learning: binary classification



In binary classification each data point comes with a (binary) label (color)

Goal is to be able to predict the label of a new point

Predicted label for new data point depends on which side of the line it falls

Procedure:

- Fit a (hyper-) plane that is "as far as possible from the two clouds"
- For a new point x , set prediction label according to which side the point falls

Supervised learning: neural networks

Classical least-squares:

$$\min_w \|X * w - y\|_2^2$$

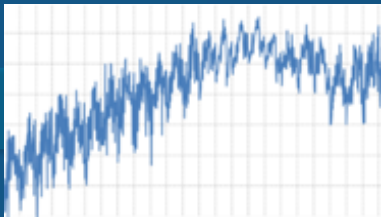
Two-layer neural network:

$$\min_{W_1, W_2} \mathcal{L}(F(W_1 * F(W_2 * X)) - Y)$$

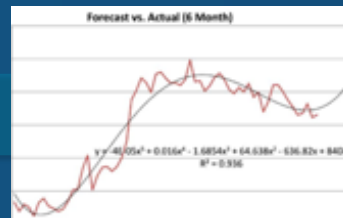
- L is a loss function (depends on the task)
 - W1, W2 are (matrix) weights
 - X is "input" data, Y is "output"
-
- Can be extended to many layers
 - Training can be difficult (time-consuming, fail to converge, etc)
 - Works well with LOTS of data

Optimization and control

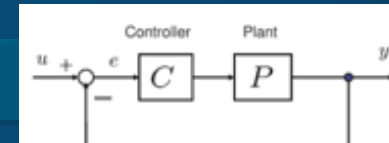
Measure



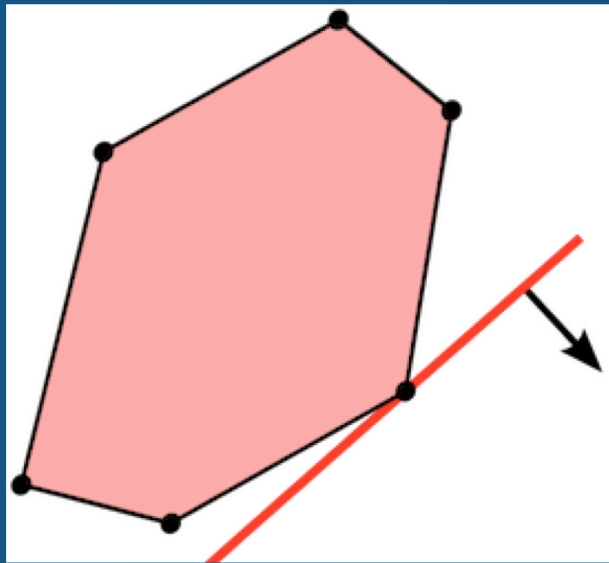
Predict



Control



Optimization



Linear program:

$$\min_x c^T x \text{ subject to } Ax \geq b$$

- x is a vector of "decision variables"
- Constraints are linear on x

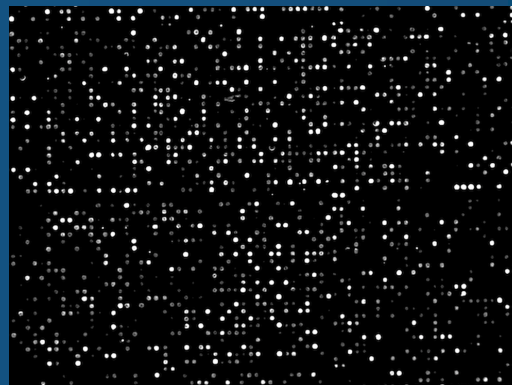
LPs and variants can be used to describe many decision problems, e.g. energy management or optimal design of engineering systems.

Application: text analytics

**70% of information
is TEXT**



What the computer sees



Real time information
extraction

- ✓ Topics and Subtopics
- ✓ Summarization
- ✓ Trends, Sentiment and Consensus
- ✓ Outlier detection
- ✓ Streaming analysis
- ✓ Multilingual analysis

Hello Здравс
你好 مرحبا твуйте

Just counting: good but not enough

| Nicholas Kristof | Roger Cohen |
|------------------|-------------|
| mr | obama |
| people | iran |
| obama | said |
| said | american |
| president | president |
| world | iranian |
| new | israel |
| american | states |
| years | new |
| united | united |

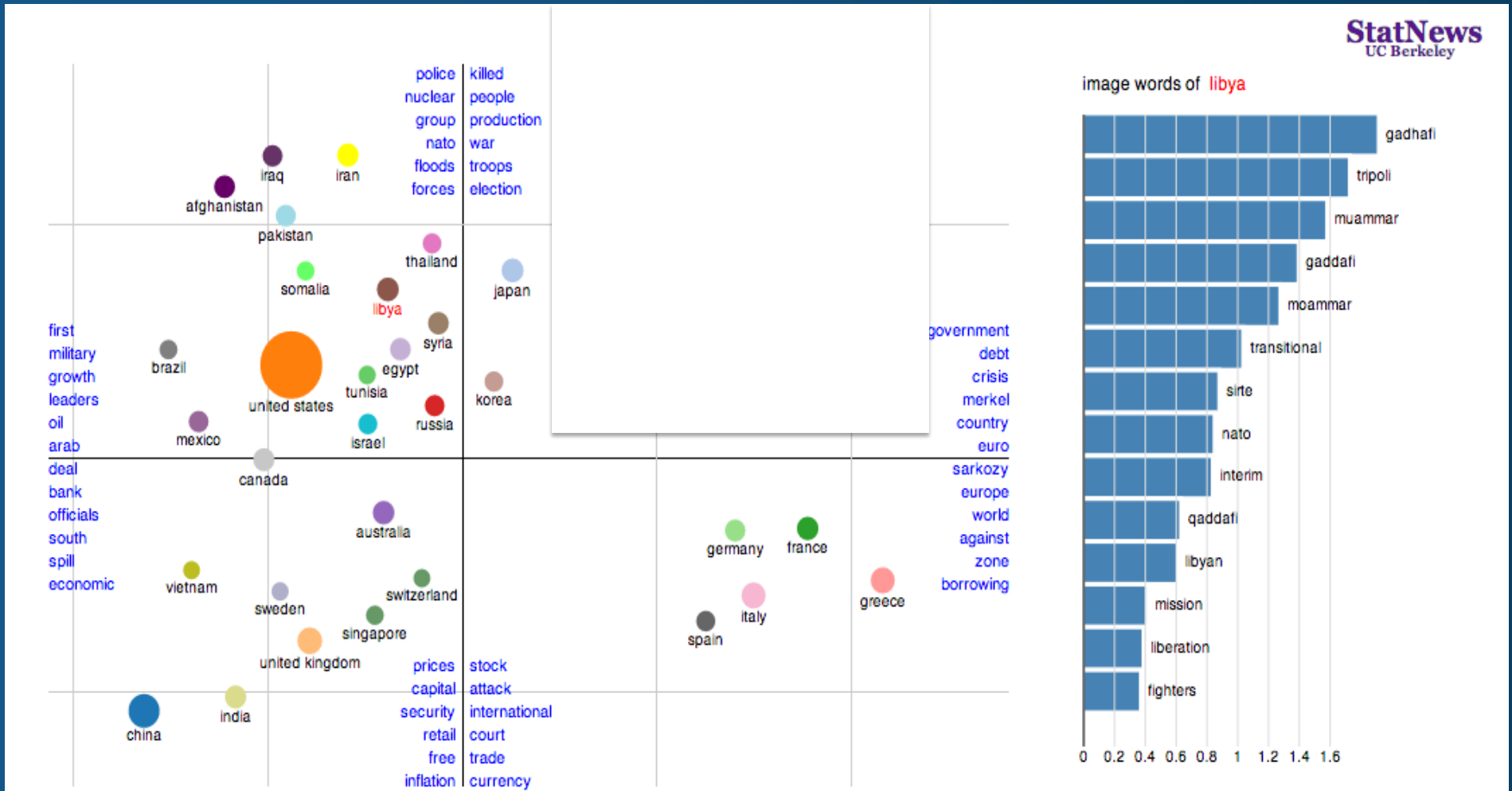
| Nicholas Kristof | Roger Cohen |
|------------------|-------------|
| videos | olmert |
| darfur | persian |
| antibiotics | chemical |
| facebook | mohammad |
| sudanese | ali |
| janjaweed | dialogue |
| youtube | cease |
| sudan | iranian |
| sweatshops | tehran |
| invite | holocaust |

Co-occurrence:
uses only "positive" samples

Statistical method:
uses all samples

Source: 325 OpEd columns from The New York Times, 10/23/2008 -3/31/2009.

Image of countries in the news

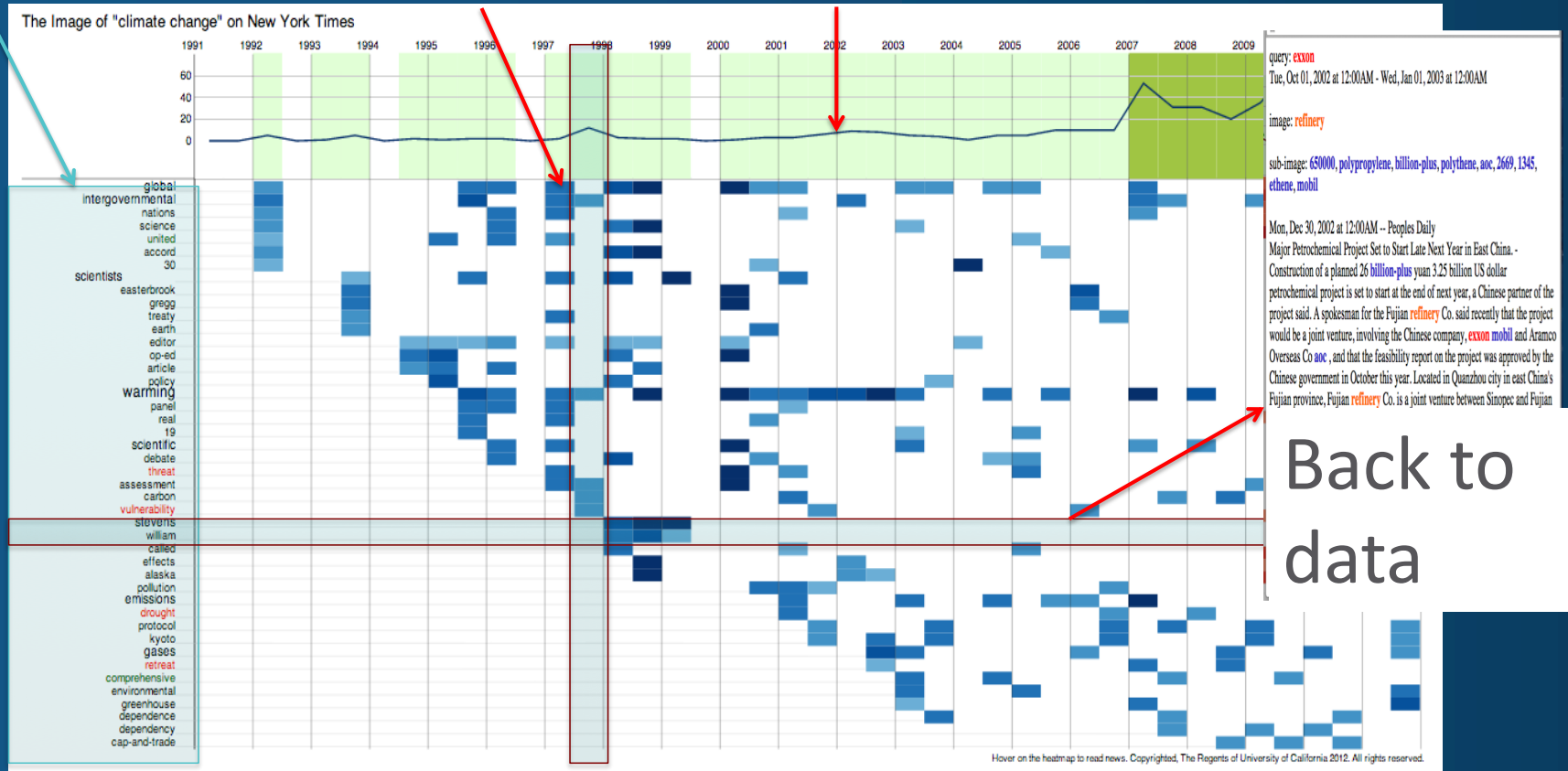


“Climate change” in The New York Times

Summarize

Analyze a time slice

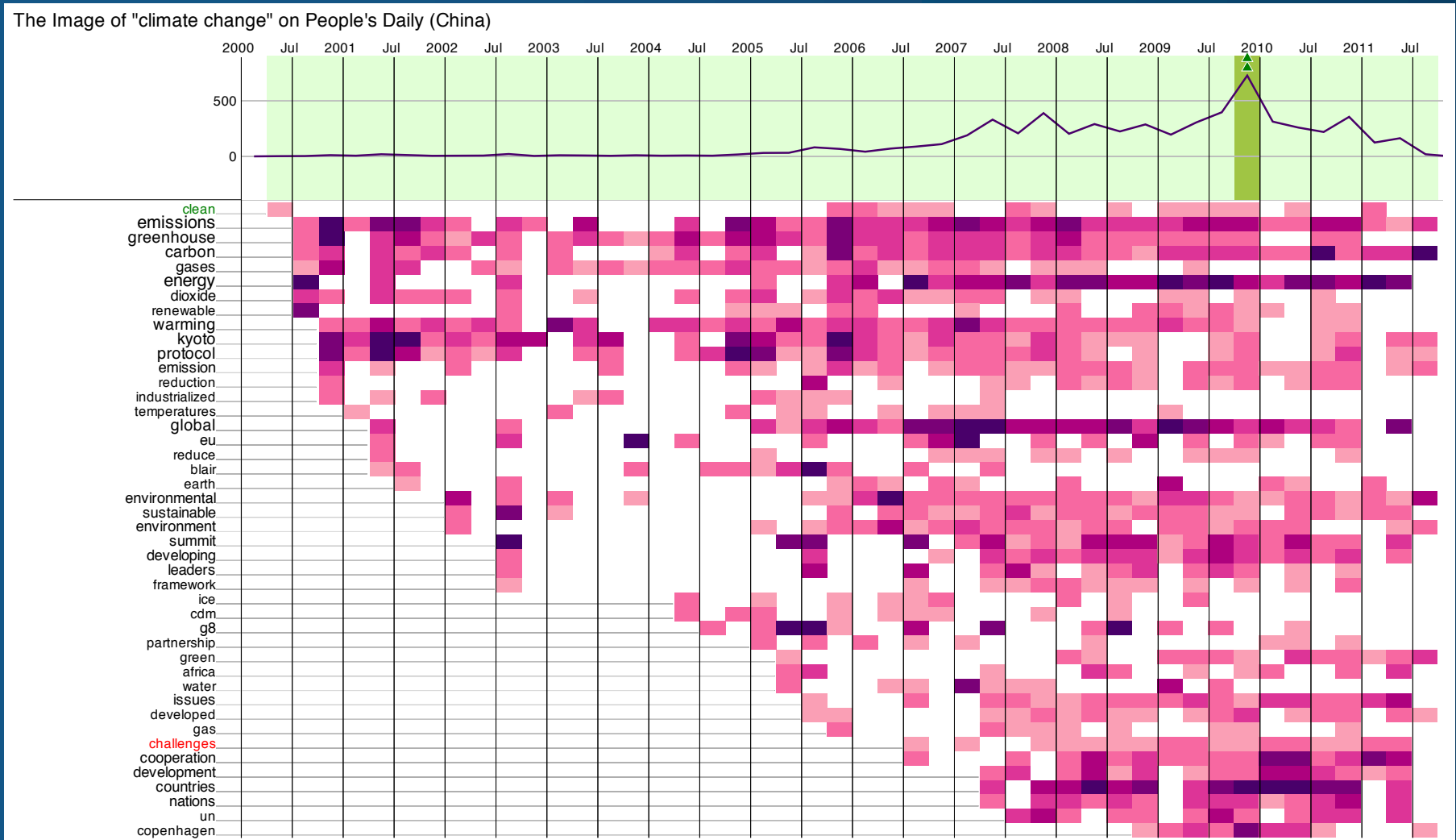
Frequency of term



Study a topic vs. time

Source: 90,000 news articles from The New York Times, 2000-2012.

“Climate change” in China’s People Daily



Source: 90,000 news articles from China’s People Daily, English version, 2000-2012.

“Climate change”: findings

In the NYT:

- Recognition of climate change by international organizations like the UN.
- Links to science terms points to tangible effects noted in scientific journals, and impels increased coverage.

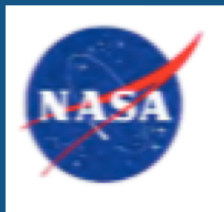
In the PD:

- Discussion of green partnerships with Africa indicates China's multilateral approach to foreign relations.

Text analytics for safety

ASRS data:

A collection of ~25K reports on flight safety written by commercial pilots in the US, maintained by NASA.

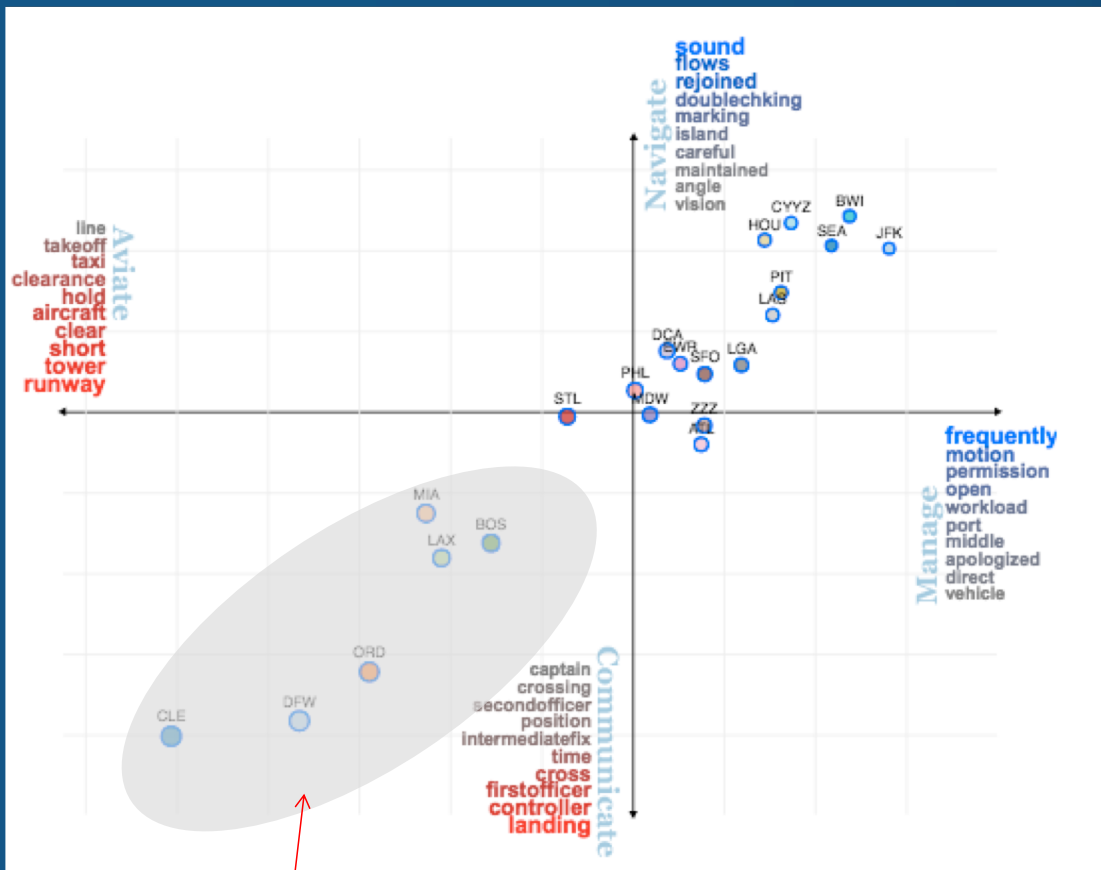


Goals:

- Understand and diagnose issues.
- If possible, predict incidents.



Unsupervised learning: sparse PCA of ASRS data



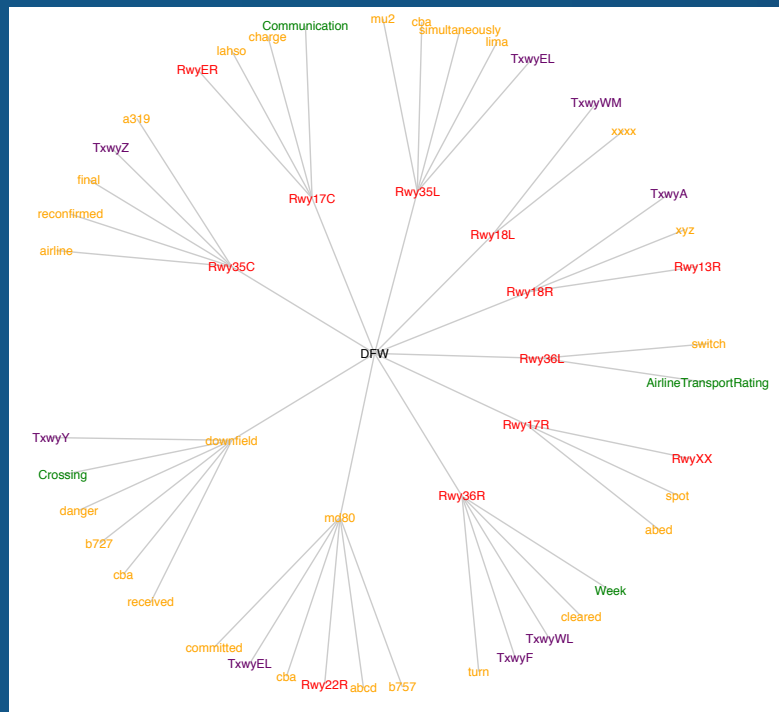
Highest variance directions correspond to four main pilot tasks

- Navigate (fly)
- Aviate (on runway)
- Communicate (with tower)
- Manage

Communications / runway issues predominant in big airports

Supervised learning

Sparsity: learning the relevant features



Goal: Analyze the relevant features in classifying reports from one airport against all others

- At DFW we find the terms “Rwy36R” and “TxwF”.
- This corresponds to an intersection with lots of near-miss collisions, due to lack of visibility from Tower.

Other societal-scale applications

Energy



Public Health



Security



Financial System



Retail



More Data



Pattern Detection



Optimization

Optimal pricing for retail

Optimizing price based on uncertain product demand:



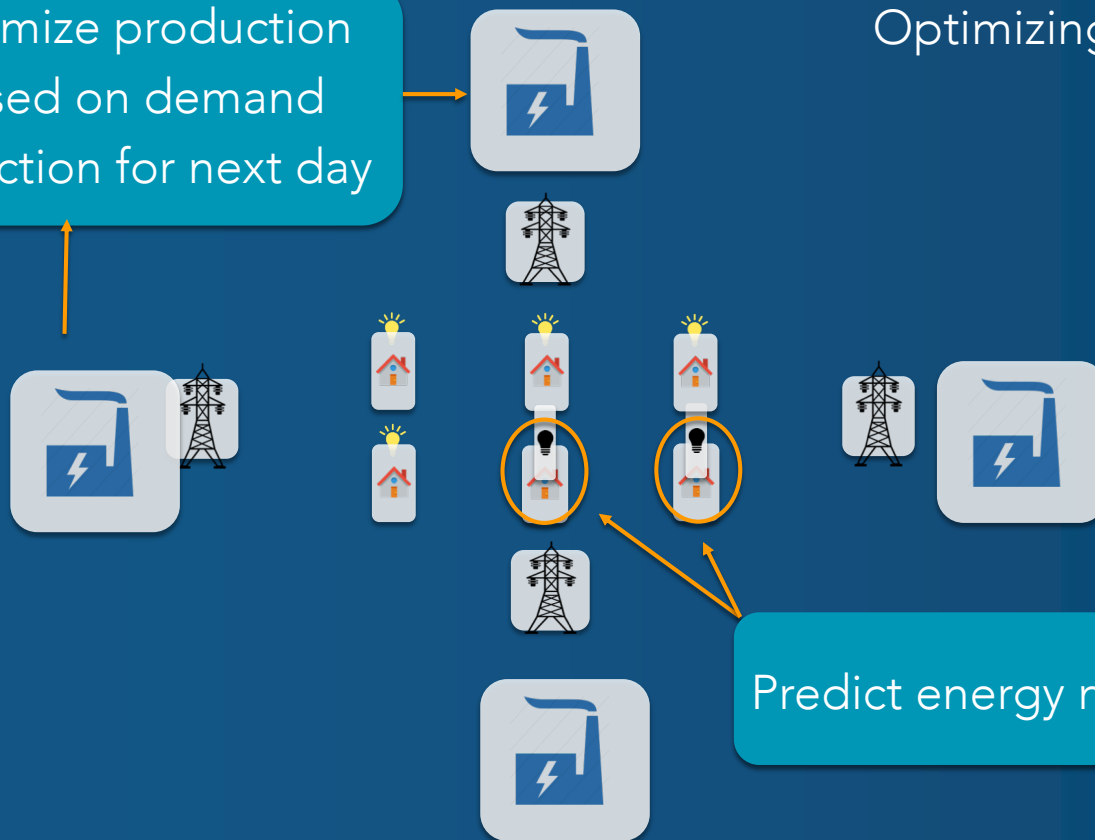
- A large online retailer wishes to price millions of items, based on estimated demand, in real-time.
- Goal: maximize revenue under profit margin (profit/revenue ratio) bound, inventory and price constraints.
- Challenge: demand estimates are noisy.

Results:

- Custom algorithm 100 times faster than current one.
- Enables scaling up to billions of items (ie, allows bundles).

Energy production

Optimize production based on demand prediction for next day



Optimizing based on uncertain demand:

- Energy demand follows patterns, some predictable some not
- Output often does not match demand
- Energy costs can be greatly reduced via AI

Case study: combined heat and power (CHP) plant



CHP generation:

- Cheap
- Environmentally friendly

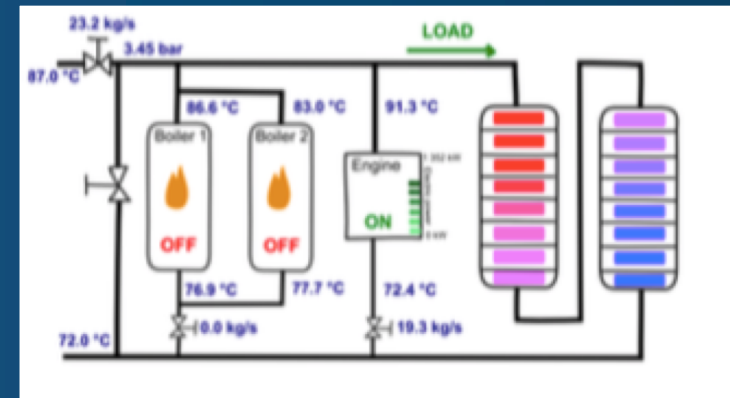
Basic problem: adjust 24-hour production variables so as to minimize operational costs, under operational and demand constraints, with demand not exactly known in advance.

Such plants are currently driven manually... Can we do
driverless energy production?

Driverless energy: results



Actual plant

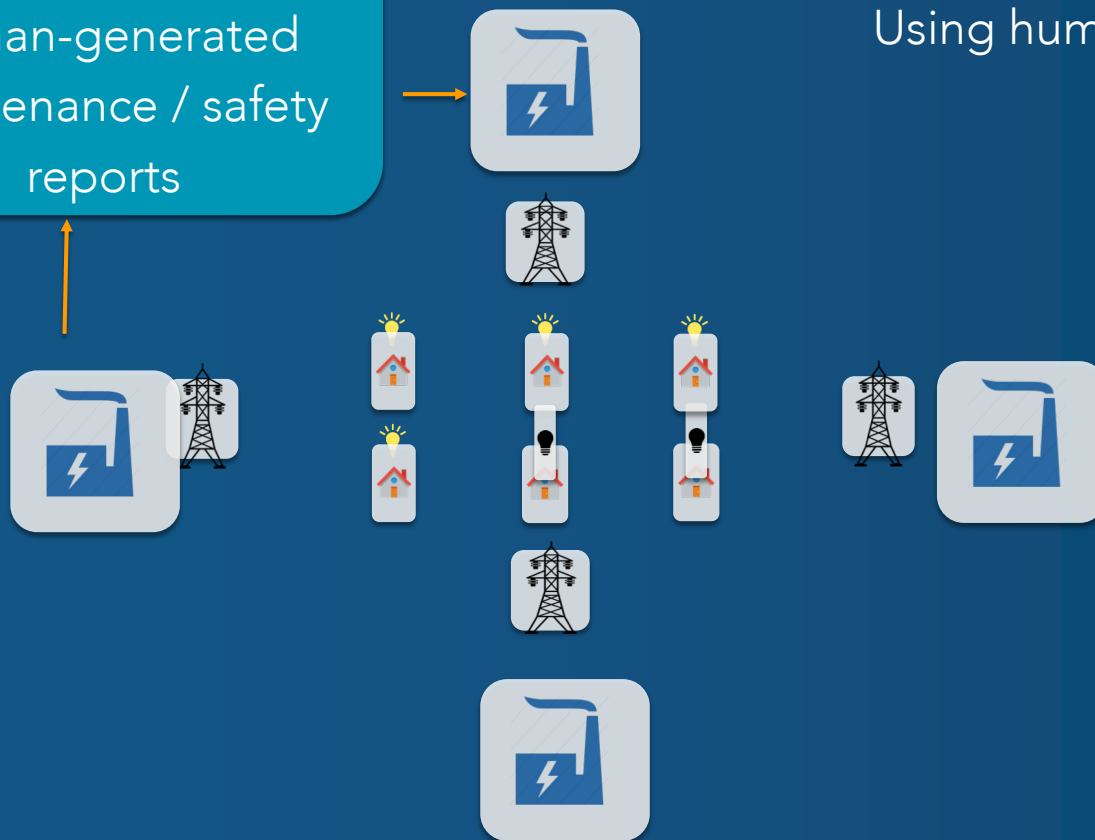


Mathematical model

- State-of-the-art optimization methods reduce production costs by 4% in average.
- More sophisticated methods enable up to an average 12% cost reduction.

Case study: predictive maintenance

Real-time collection of
human-generated
maintenance / safety
reports



Using human knowledge:

- In the future, "Internet-of-Things" (IoT) networks will capture sensor data from machinery across production systems
- We can capture now the vast human knowledge in technician or safety engineers
- Allows to diagnose failure trends, predict events

Case study: health, government and insurance

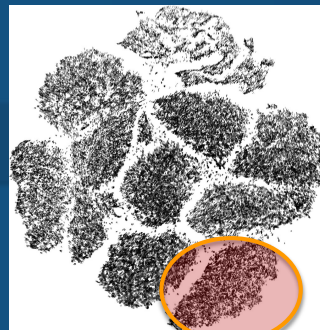
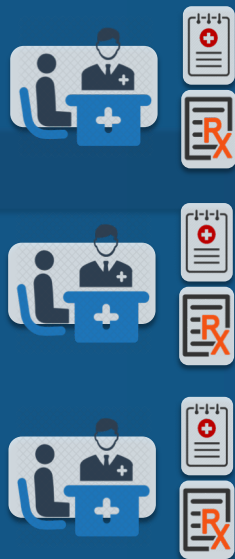
Analyse Reports from Medical Visits



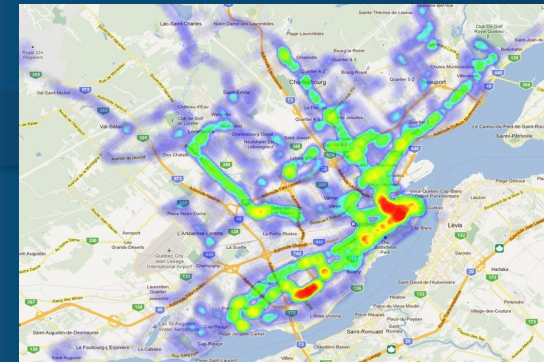
Identify What Illnesses are Occurring



Rapidly Locate Affected Areas



Early detection of potential issues



Case study: health, government and insurance

Government



Coordinate Fast and
Targeted Counter-
Measures

Public Health



Increase Specialized
Healthcare Staffing &
Medical Supplies

Insurance



Anticipate Surge in
Claims & Hedge
Economic Impact

Future of AI?

We will get more
and more data



And AI can help us
work with this data



AI is a powerful tool to help its users



- Like any tool, there are dangers
- But also an opportunity to improve societal-scale processes
- AI helps people become super-human
- Don't focus on the hype! Work on novel stuff

Thank you!