

Software Engineering for Artificial Intelligence

Debugging



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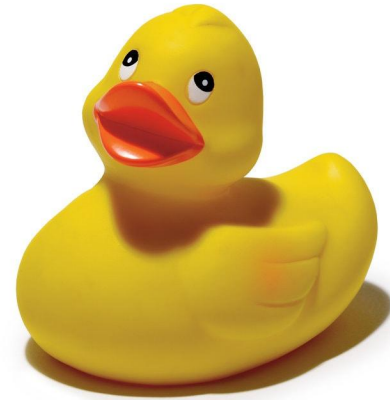


Fig. 1. Rubber duck. From *The New York Time Magazine*. (11.11.2011) Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/13/magazine/the-rubber-duck-knows-no-frontiers.html>

Imagine...



Fig. 2. This world is a BUG. From *Imgflip*. (2016) Retrieved from <https://imgflip.com/i/1xvke8>

Overview

- ❑ What are bugs in the AI context?
- ❑ What are their causes?
- ❑ How can we detect and fix bugs?
- ❑ What have we learned?



- ❑ The algorithm doesn't work
 - ❑ System outages [1]
 - ❑ Model outages

- ❑ The algorithm doesn't work well enough
 - ❑ Intelligence errors: over- / underfitting
 - ❑ Unbalanced or insufficient training sample
 - ❑ Bad models

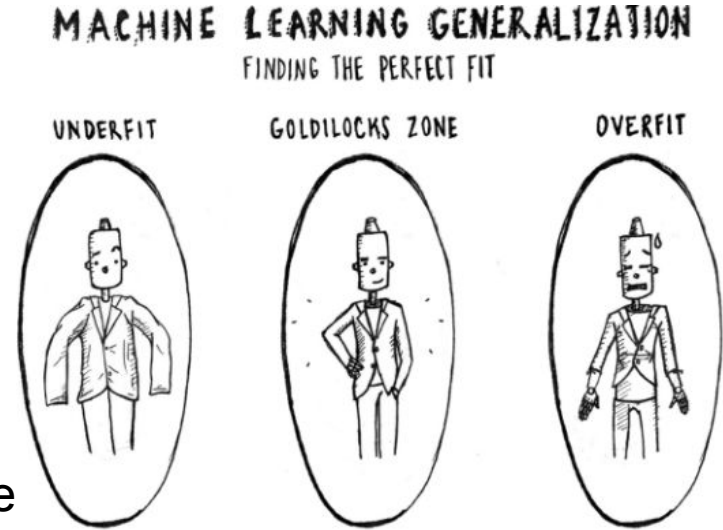


Fig. 3. Over- & Underfitting. From *Analytics Vidhya*. (07.02.2020) Retrieved from <https://www.analyticsvidhya.com/blog/2020/02/underfitting-overfitting-best-fitting-machine-learning/>

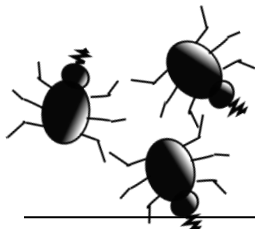
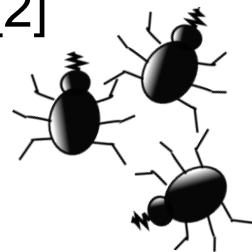
Why special?

- ❑ Exponentially difficult debugging (2D to 4D)
 - ❑ Algorithm
 - ❑ Implementation
 - ❑ **Model**
 - ❑ **Data**



An Example

- ❑ Training logistic regression using stochastic gradient descent [2]
 - ❑ Algorithm: gradient descent updates equations correctly
 - ❑ Implementation: feature and parameter computes correctly
 - ❑ Model: model capability, limitations (wrong classifier)
 - ❑ Data: Noisy labels, mistakes in preprocessing, insufficient/biased data



$n^2 \rightarrow n^4$ ways



Signals:

- ❑ Plot loss functions
- ❑ Actual output
- ❑ Summary of intermediate computations

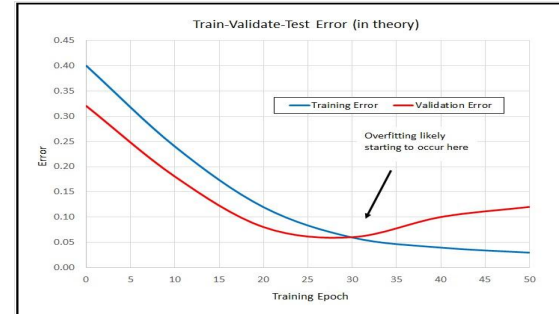


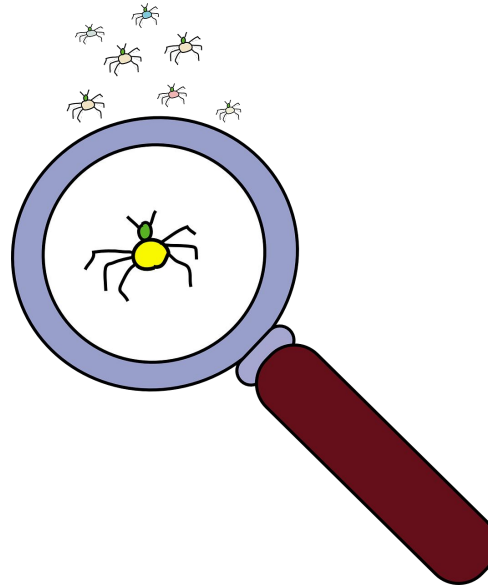
Fig. 4. Neural Network Train-Validate-Test. From James D. McCaffrey. (28.06.2018) Retrieved from <https://jamesmccaffrey.wordpress.com/2018/06/28/neural-network-train-validate-test/>

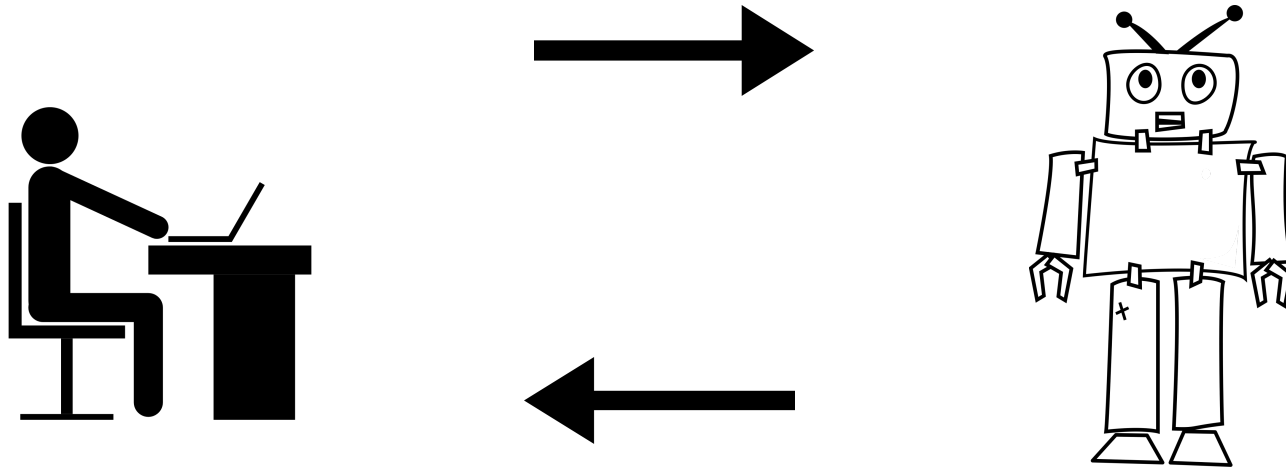
Why special?

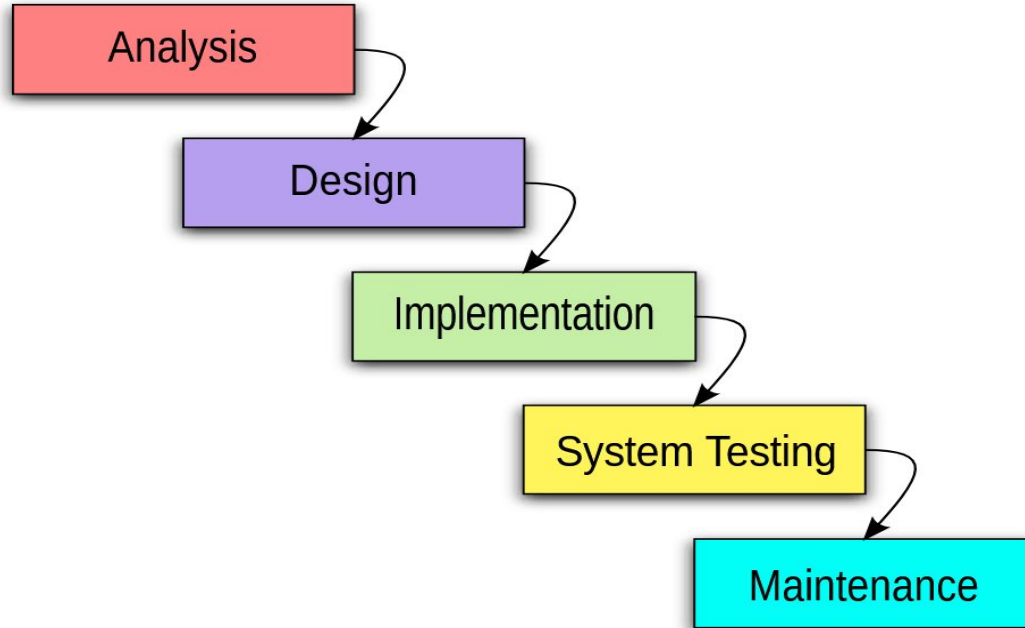
- ❑ Long debugging cycles



How to detect bugs?







- ❑ Focus on Debugging in Implementation and System Testing phase
- ❑ During Implementation bugs in code are targeted
- ❑ When System Testing bugs due to training are targeted

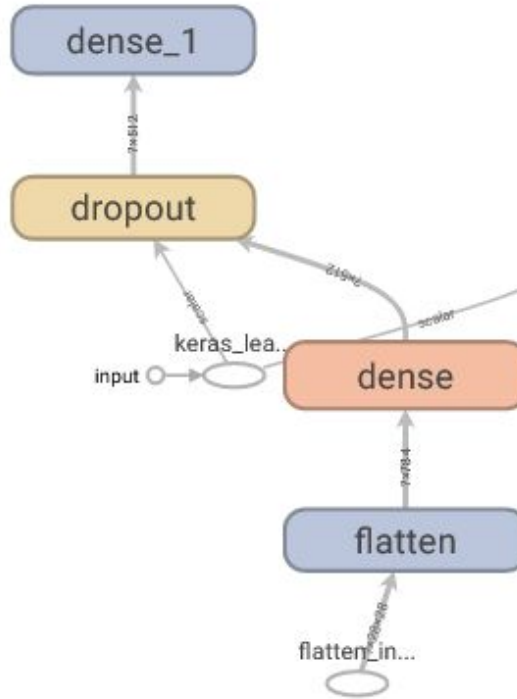
Fig. 5. Waterfall model. From Wikipedia Retrieved from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waterfall_model CC BY 3.0

Bugs in Implementation



- ❑ Incorrect layer connections
- ❑ Faulty gradient propagation
- ❑ Bad choice of hyperparameters
 - ❑ Bad initializations
 - ❑ Activation functions
 - ❑ Loss function

Fixes for Implementation bugs



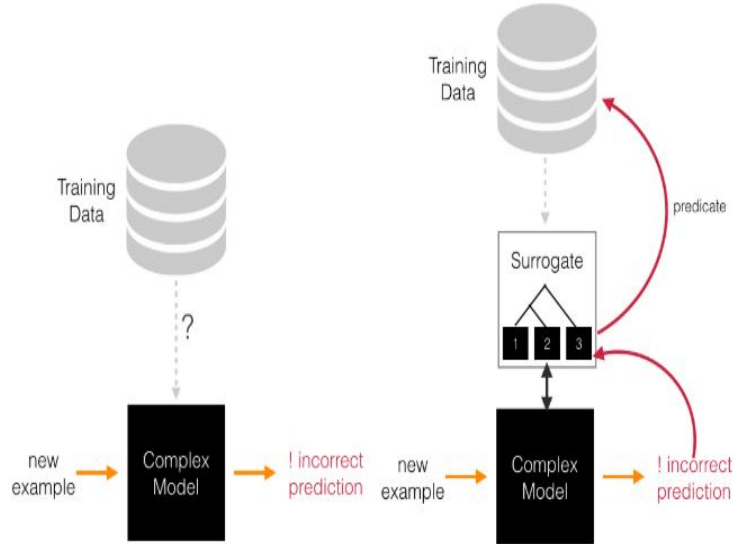
- ❑ Simple sanity checks
- ❑ Observe outputs and parameters of layers
 - ❑ Tensorboard / Neptune
- ❑ Hyper parameter optimization
 - ❑ Optuna / Hyperopt

Bugs in System Testing phase



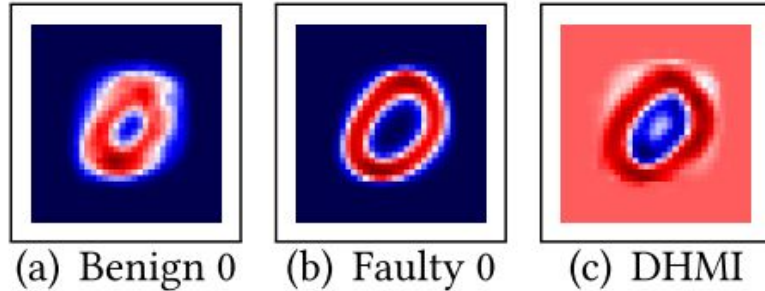
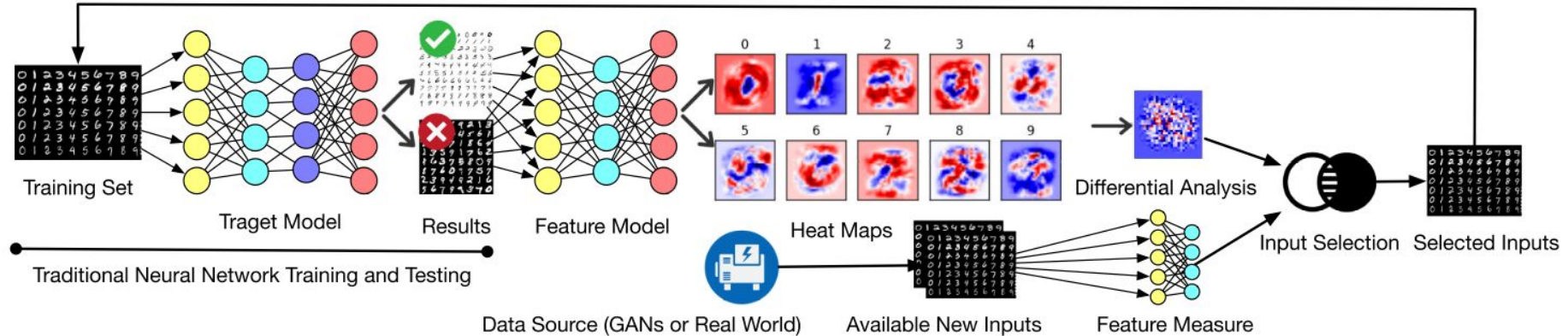
- ❑ Bad predictions on subset of data
- ❑ Prejudiced predictions
- ❑ Presence of adversarial inputs [3]

Fig. 6 Adversarial samples(misclassified) in the bottom row are created from the legitimate samples in the top row. Taken from "[Practical Black-Box Attacks against Machine Learning](#)"



- ❑ PALM
 - ❑ Surrogate model is decision tree over submodels
- ❑ Use of fairness metrics for training [4]
- ❑ Retraining on adversarial examples

Fig. 7 Explainable surrogate model to measure influence of training data, taken from Sanjay Krishnan, [PALM: Machine Learning Explanations For Iterative Debugging](#)



- ❑ Core idea: Faulty features
- ❑ Search for best submodel
- ❑ Generating differential Heatmap for the classes
- ❑ Retraining with a mix of data that fulfills the criteria of the heatmap and random training data

Fig.8: Workflow of MODE, Taken from [MODE: Automated Neural Network Model Debugging via State Differential Analysis and Input Selection](#)

Conclusion

- ❑ Bugs in AI differ from typical SE bugs
 - ❑ Exponentially harder to find the cause
 - ❑ Long debugging cycle
- ❑ Tools in different phases
 - ❑ Implementation Bugs
 - ❑ System Testing Bugs
- ❑ Bugs are inevitable

知己知彼，百戰不殆。

——《孫子兵法》

If you know both yourself and your enemy, you can win numerous battle without jeopardy.

- *The Art of War*

Wenn man sowohl sich selbst als auch seinen Feind kennt, kann man zahlreiche Schlachten ohne Gefahr gewinnen.

- *Sun Tzu, Die Kunst des Krieges*



Fig. 9. Jexi. From *Wikipedia*. (2019) Retrieved from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jexi>

When a self-aware smartphone with a female-voiced virtual assistant that becomes emotionally attached to its socially awkward owner....

[Trailer](#)

Discussion



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- [1] Geoff Hulten, “Building Intelligent Systems: A Guide to Machine Learning Engineering”. In: 2018.
- [2] S. Zaya Enam, “[Why is machine learning hard?](#)”, In: 10/11/2016
- [3] Nicolas Papernot, Patrick McDaniel, Ian Goodfellow, “[Practical Black-Box Attacks against Machine Learning](#)”
- [4] Mengnan Du, Fan Yang, [Fairness in Deep Learning:A Computational Perspective](#)

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