

When to use AI?

When not to use AI?

Aalok Thakkar (Ashoka University) and Manoj Kumar (Moolya)

UK creating 'murder prediction' tool to identify people most likely to kill

Exclusive: Algorithms allegedly being used to study data of thousands of people, in project critics say is 'chilling and dystopian'



If not predictive policing, then what?

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Reasoning?

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*Computer Chess will surpass human
chess abilities within ten years.*
Herbert Simon (1957)









Coherence, not Correctness

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And yet we use it for chess...

But what about a chatbot?

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But what about a chatbot?

Airline held liable for its chatbot giving passenger bad advice - what this means for travellers

23 February 2024

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Maria Yagoda

Features correspondent

When Air Canada's chatbot gave incorrect information to a traveller, the airline argued its chatbot is "responsible for its own actions".

DPD error caused chatbot to swear at customer

Bigger AI chatbots more inclined to spew nonsense – and people don't always realize

Artificial-intelligence models are improving overall but are more likely to answer every question, leading to wrong answers.

AI Gone Wild: Cursor's Rogue Bot 'Hallucinates' New User Policy

News

NYC's AI Chatbot Tells Businesses to Break the Law



The Microsoft-powered bot says bosses can take workers' tips and that landlords can discriminate based on source of income

But what about writing and summarization?

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AI chatbots unable to accurately summarise news, BBC finds

11 February 2025

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Imran Rahman-Jones

Technology reporter

It found 51% of all AI answers to questions about the news were judged to have significant issues of some form.

Additionally, 19% of AI answers which cited BBC content introduced factual errors, such as incorrect factual statements, numbers and dates.

But what about writing and summarization?

Some examples of inaccuracies found by the BBC included:

- Gemini incorrectly said the NHS did not recommend vaping as an aid to quit smoking
- ChatGPT and Copilot said Rishi Sunak and Nicola Sturgeon were still in office even after they had left
- Perplexity misquoted BBC News in a story about the Middle East, saying Iran initially showed "restraint" and described Israel's actions as "aggressive"

Beyond LLMs?

Tesla Autopilot feature was involved in 13 fatal crashes, US regulator says

'Alexa, how should I vote?': rightwing uproar over voice assistant's pro-Kamala Harris points

Insight - Amazon scraps secret AI recruiting tool that showed bias against women

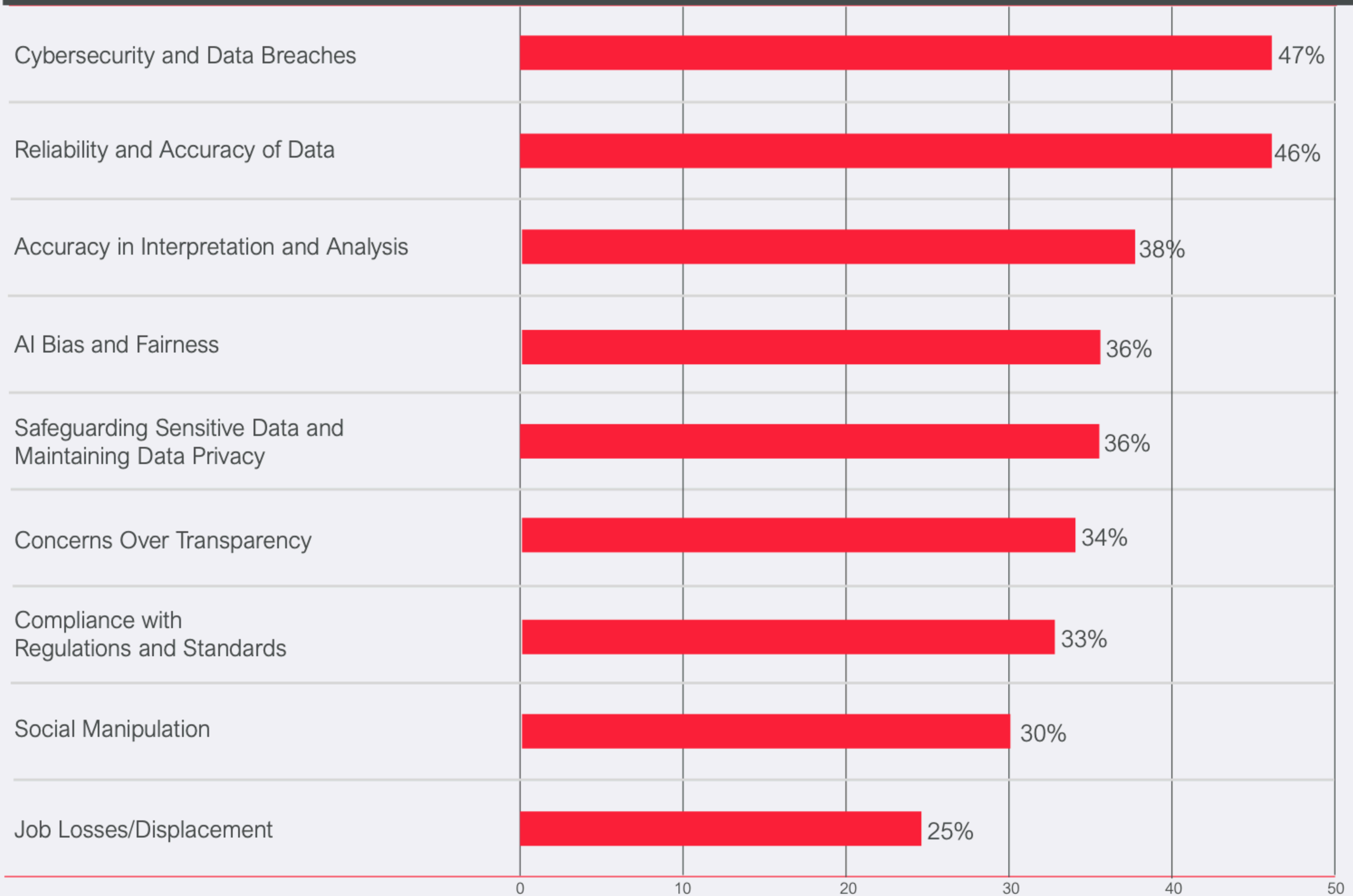
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Customer expectation driving AI adoption:
55% acknowledged that customer
expectation is a key driver for AI adoption

FOMO a key driver for AI uptake: 63% of
global IT leaders worried their company
will fall behind if they don't adopt AI

You said you do not completely trust AI to provide a benefit to your business. Why is this?

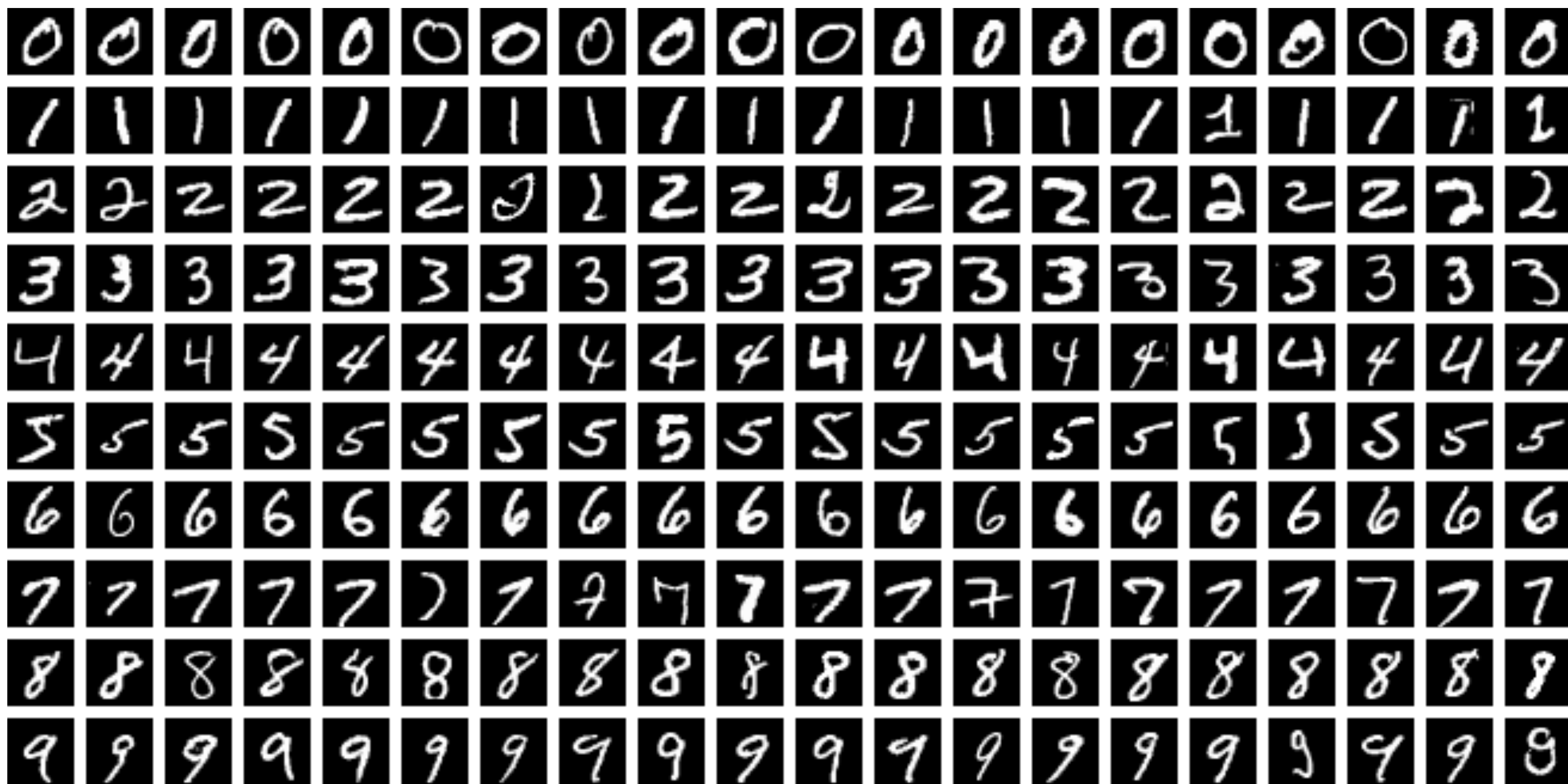


When to use AI?

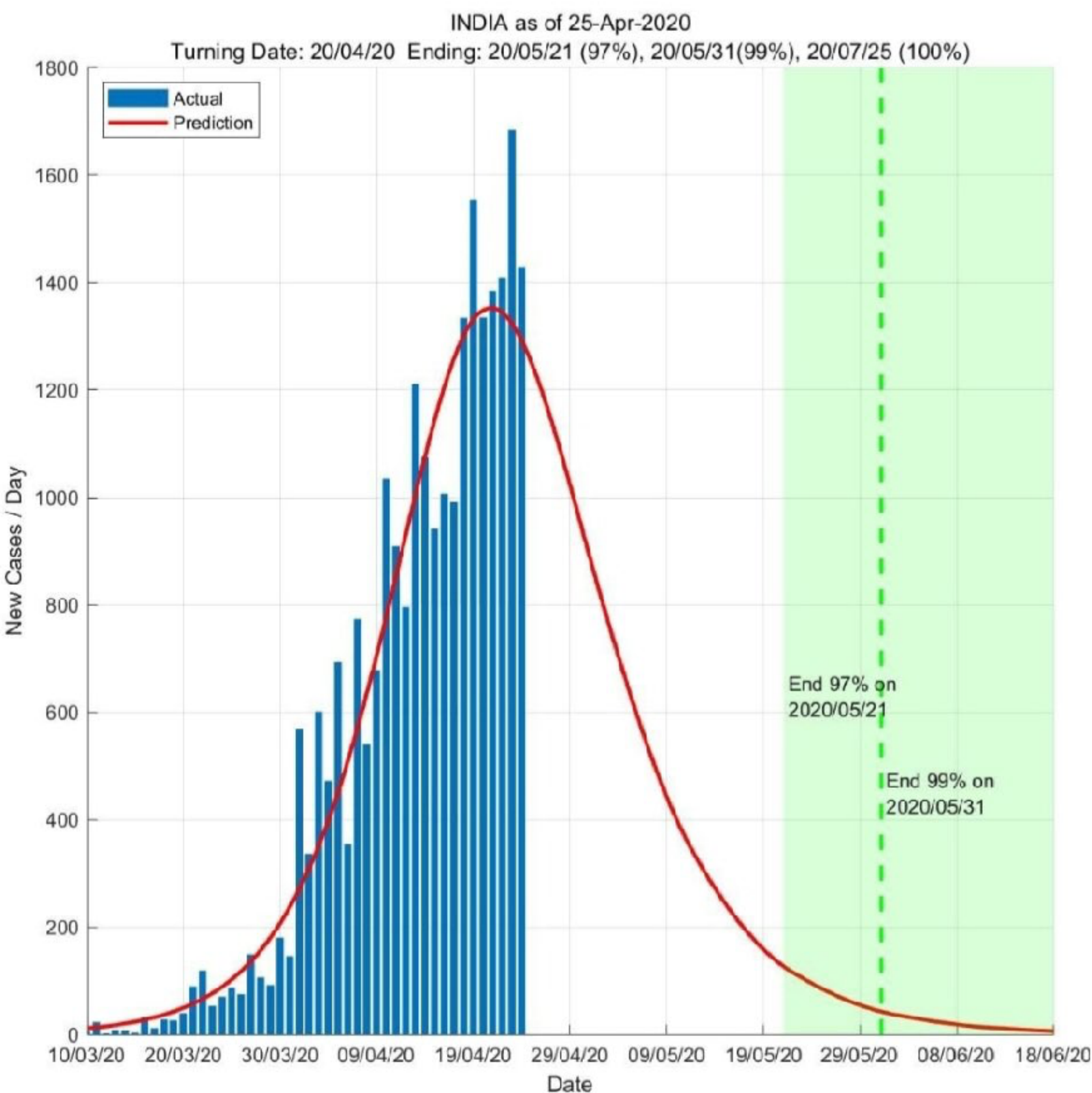
- Stationary, well-defined input-output mapping
- High signal-to-noise ratio
- Labeled, balanced training data
- Clear objective function and feedback signal
- Error tolerance is known and acceptable

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Why do ML models excel at MNIST?



Covid-19 in India: Five predictions that turned out to be false

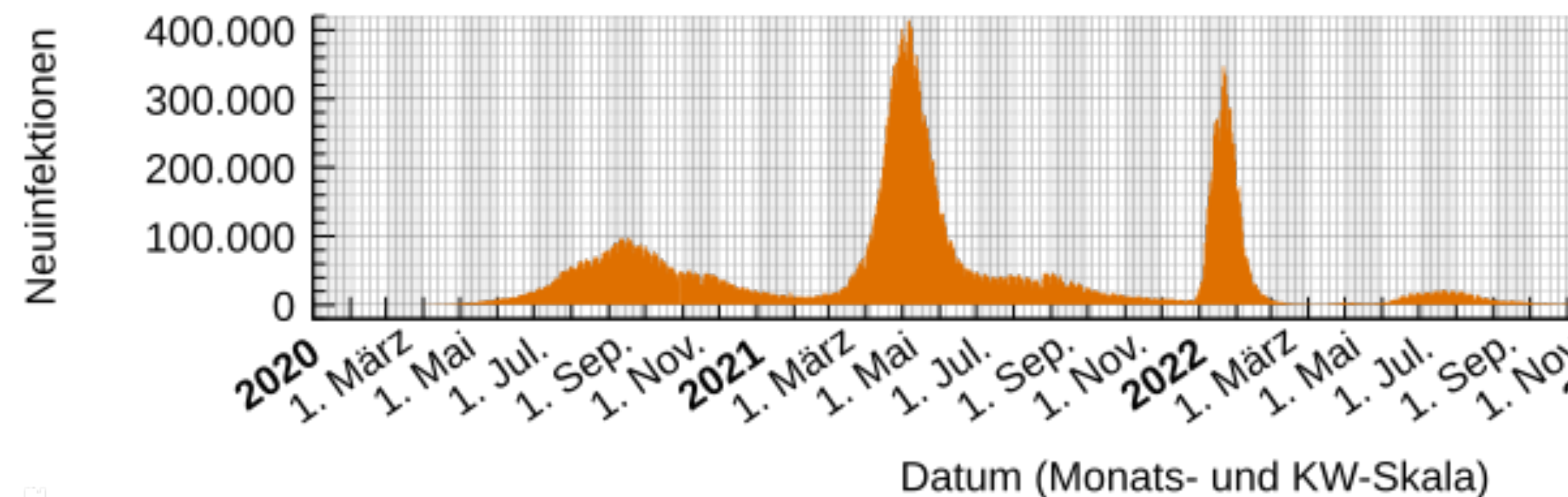
Priyanka Mukherjee / TIMESOFINDIA.COM / Updated:
Mar 25, 2021, 18:19 IST

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If the underlying data distribution $P(X, Y)$ is stationary, with sufficient representative data, we can learn a function $f(X) \rightarrow Y$ that generalizes.

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Spam Filters

- The distribution of spam vs. non-spam messages *evolves slowly*.
- There is *a lot of labeled training data*.
- There's *clear feedback* (users marking emails as spam or not).

High stability (with retraining every few months), with a **feedback loop** and **low risk of error with FN** (users can correct mistakes).

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Predictive Maintenance

- Physical systems follow *known degradation patterns*.
- Sensor data is *calibrated* and *consistent*.

High stability (unless design changes), high **quality training data** (due to logs), direct **feedback loop**, and **manageable risk** of error.

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Resume Screening

- Applications vary widely.
- Hiring decisions are subjective, biased, and often inconsistent.
- Labels are noisy and influenced by human bias.

Low stability (changing roles, shifting priorities), **poor data**, high **risk of error** (legal and ethical), and missing **feedback loop**.

Insight - Amazon scraps secret AI recruiting tool that showed bias against women

Biased by Design: How AI Reinforces Hiring Discrimination

AI-driven hiring tools can discriminate against people with disabilities due to biased training data and the amplification of negative stereotypes

AI tools show biases in ranking job applicants' names according to perceived race and gender

Microsoft, Amazon among the companies shaping AI-enabled hiring policy

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Data Drift

Kids these days use the word AI instead of ML and Data Science.

Concept Drift

Your company was hiring freshers earlier, but now it needs people with 5+ years of experience.

1. Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) test for continuous features
2. Wasserstein distance for mixed features
3. Population Stability Index (PSI) for feature monitoring in production
4. Kullback-Leibler (KL) or Jensen-Shannon (JS) divergence for comparing probability distributions
5. Maximum Mean Discrepancy (MMD) for high-dimensional, structured data



When to use AI?

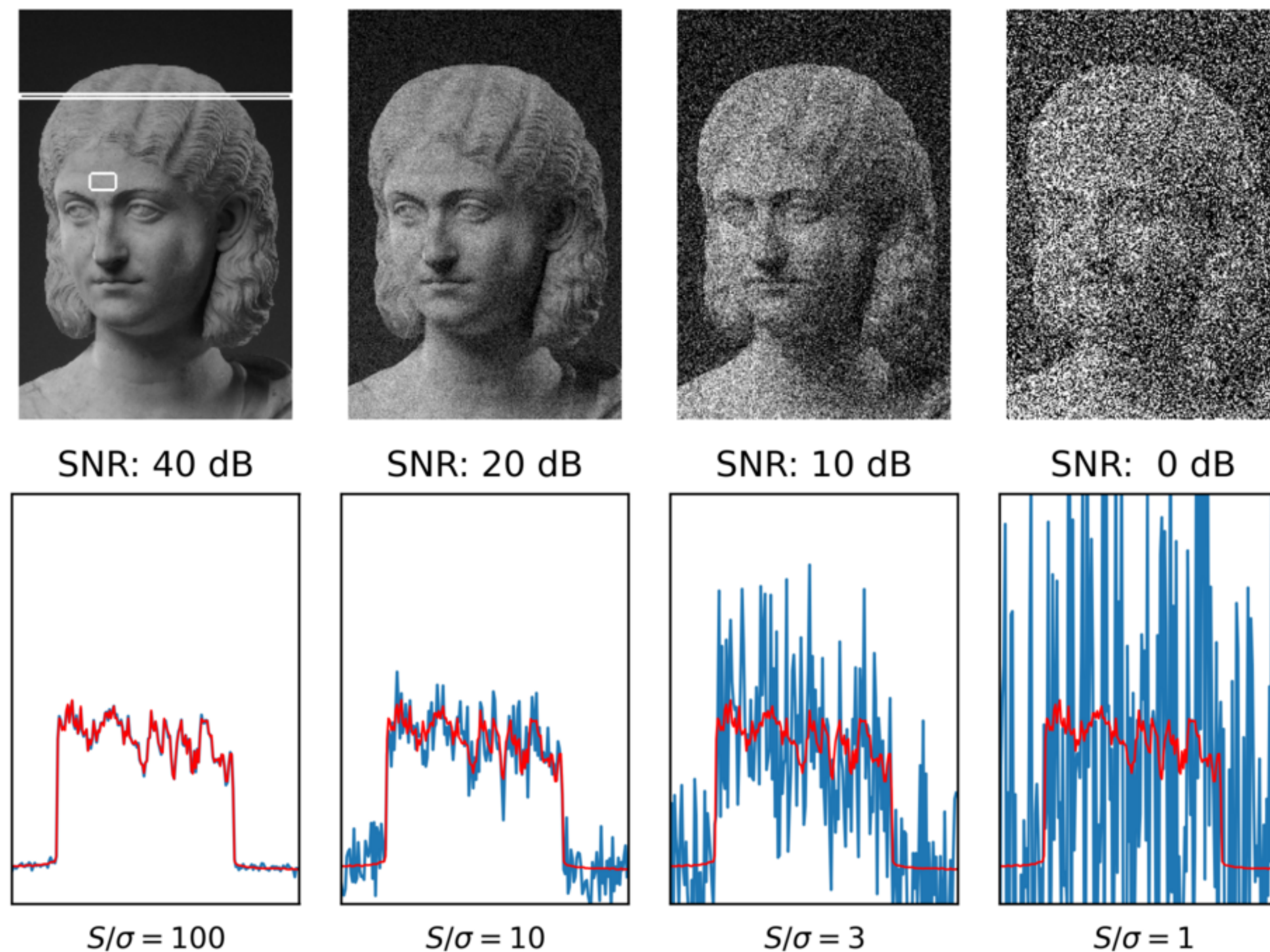
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$$Y = f(X) + \varepsilon$$

The output Y comes from true signal $f(X)$ and noise ε .

$$\text{Signal-to-Noise Ratio} = \frac{\text{Var}(f(X))}{\text{Var}(\varepsilon)}$$

This tells us how much of the variation in the output is *explainable* by the input, versus how much is *random or irreducible*.



Predicting Job Performance from Git Commits

High Noise: activity varies widely by workflow, project phase, and task

Weak Signal: LOC counts don't reflect quality, impact, or contribution.

Such models are often overfitted, brittle, or unfair.

Visual Defect Detection in Manufacturing

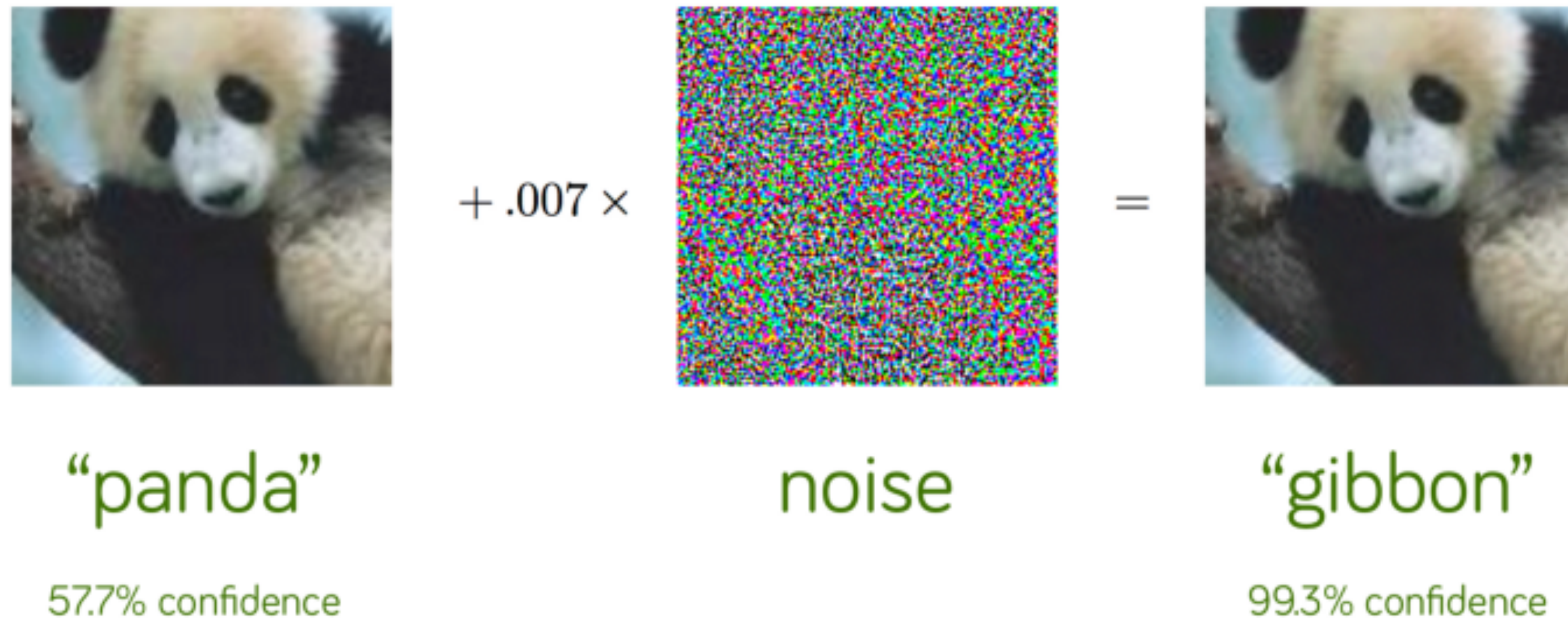
Classifying if a component has a visually perceptible defect:

- Good lighting and camera placement can reduce visual noise.
- Consistent product shapes can give us good signals.

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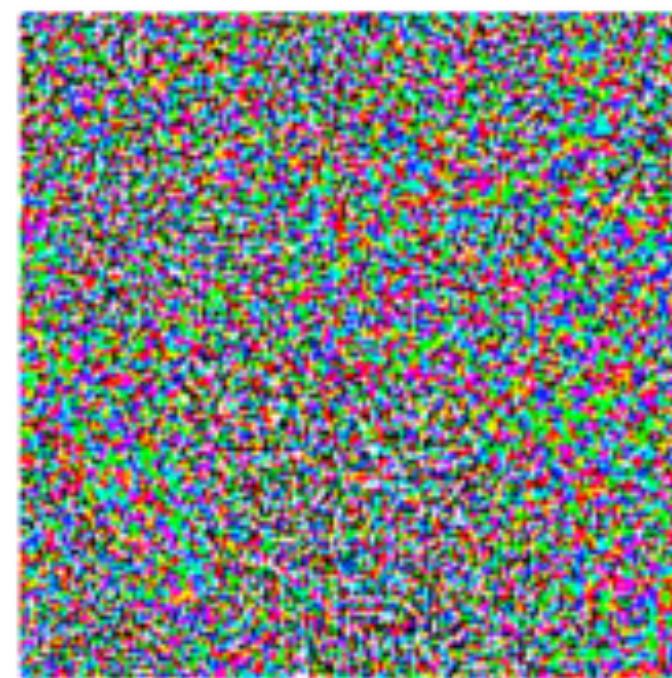
$$\forall x \in \mathcal{X}, \forall \delta \in \mathbb{R}^d, \|\delta\| < \epsilon \Rightarrow f(x + \delta) \approx f(x)$$



“panda”

57.7% confidence

+ .007 ×



noise

=



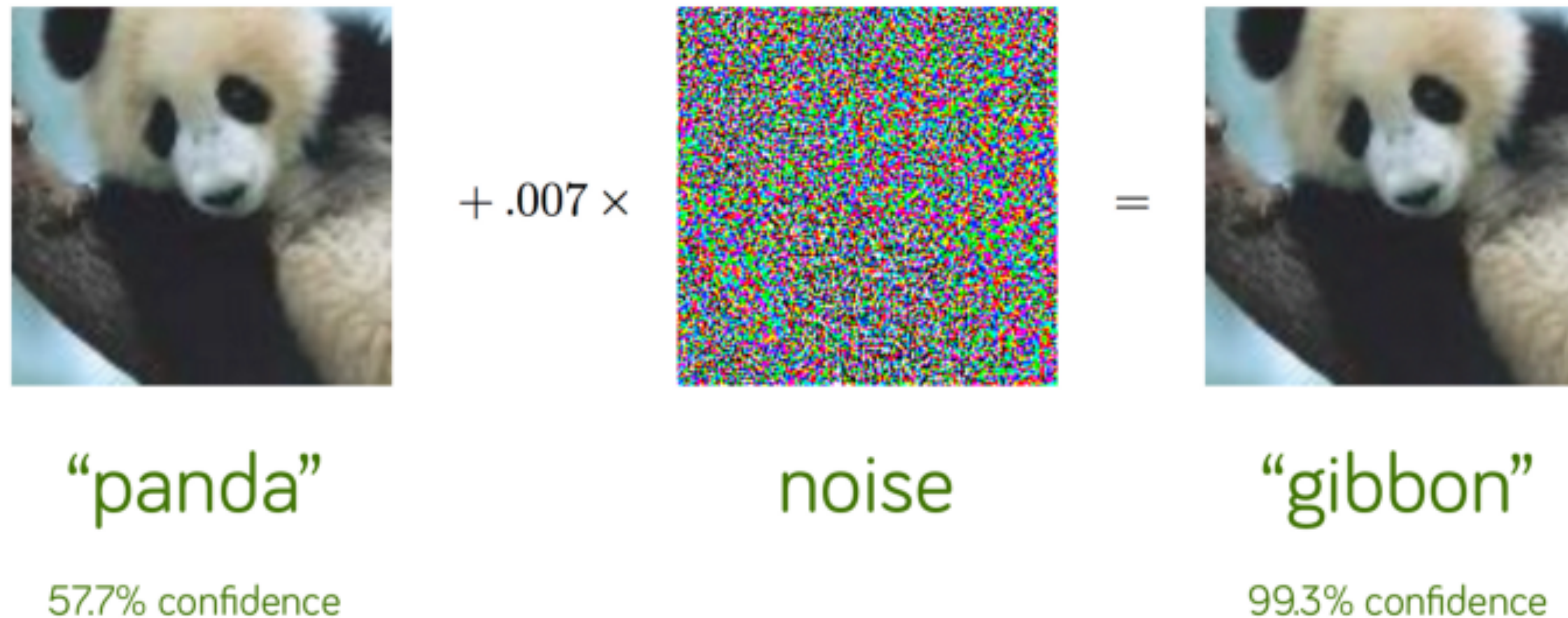
“gibbon”

99.3% confidence

QA must validate model behavior beyond clean test sets

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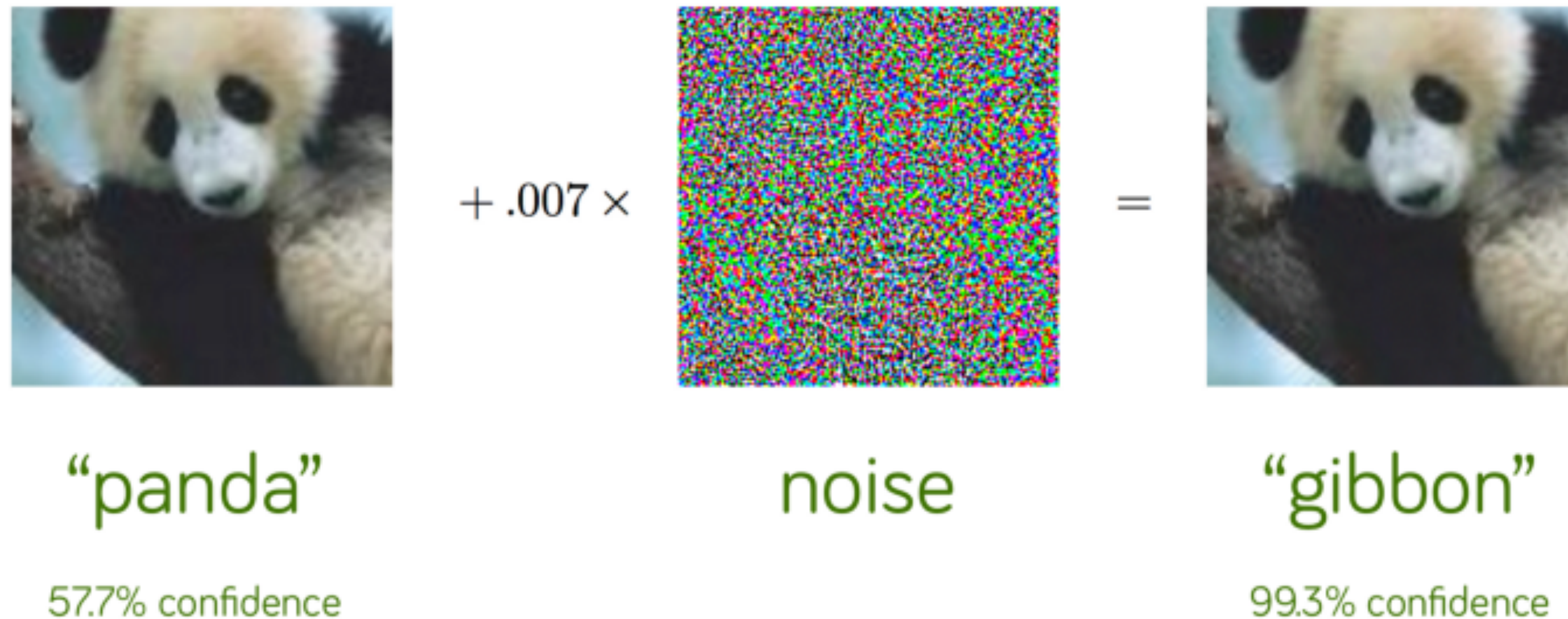


QA must validate model behavior beyond clean test sets

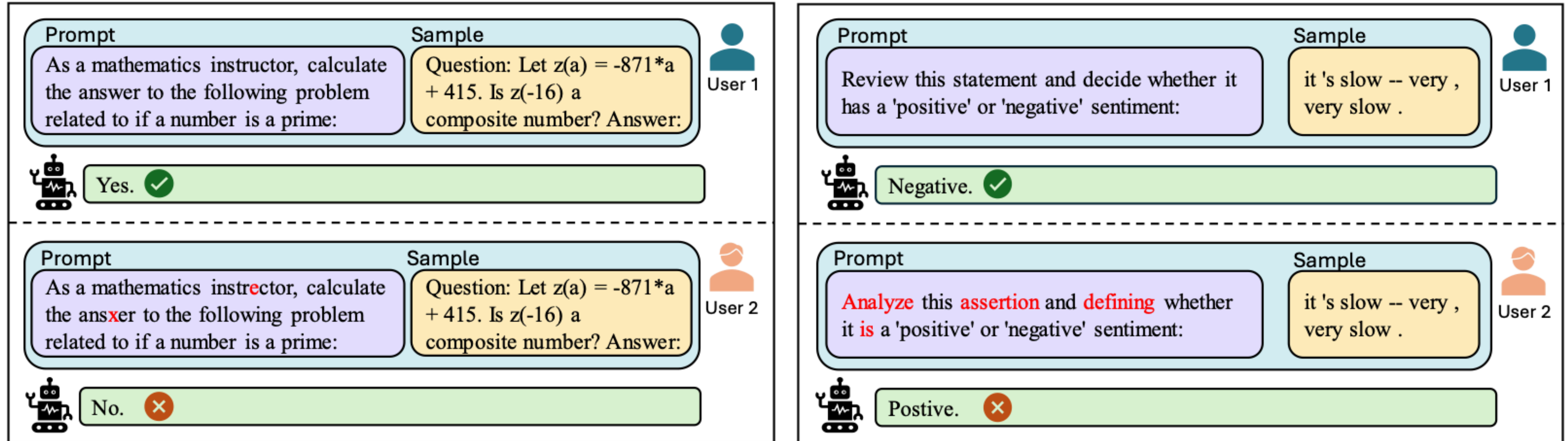
Corruptions: Apply blur, noise, occlusion, contrast shift

Adversarial Attacks: Use gradient-based perturbations

Out-of-Distribution: Test on samples from different distribution



QA must validate model behavior beyond clean test sets



(a) Typos lead to errors in math problems.

(b) Synonyms lead to errors in sentiment analysis problems.

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Don't become AI rich and trust poor.

Use AI when:

- You understand the data
- You can measure quality
- You can tolerate error
- You can detect failure
- You can take responsibility

Don't use AI when:

- You're guessing
- You're hiding complexity
- You're outsourcing judgment
- You can't explain the outcome
- You can't tolerate errors

This Isn't Over - Part 2 is Coming!

21st August, 5 PM IST

Expect deeper discussion, more interaction - and a bigger room.

Join the QA on the Rocks WhatsApp Community
For event updates, early access, and shared resources



Scan the QR Code to join

Thank you and see you soon!

QA on the Rocks



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