



Is data science killing numerical mathematics?

4TU.AMI symposium Big Data

Mark Roest

Don't

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I'M A

MANAGER

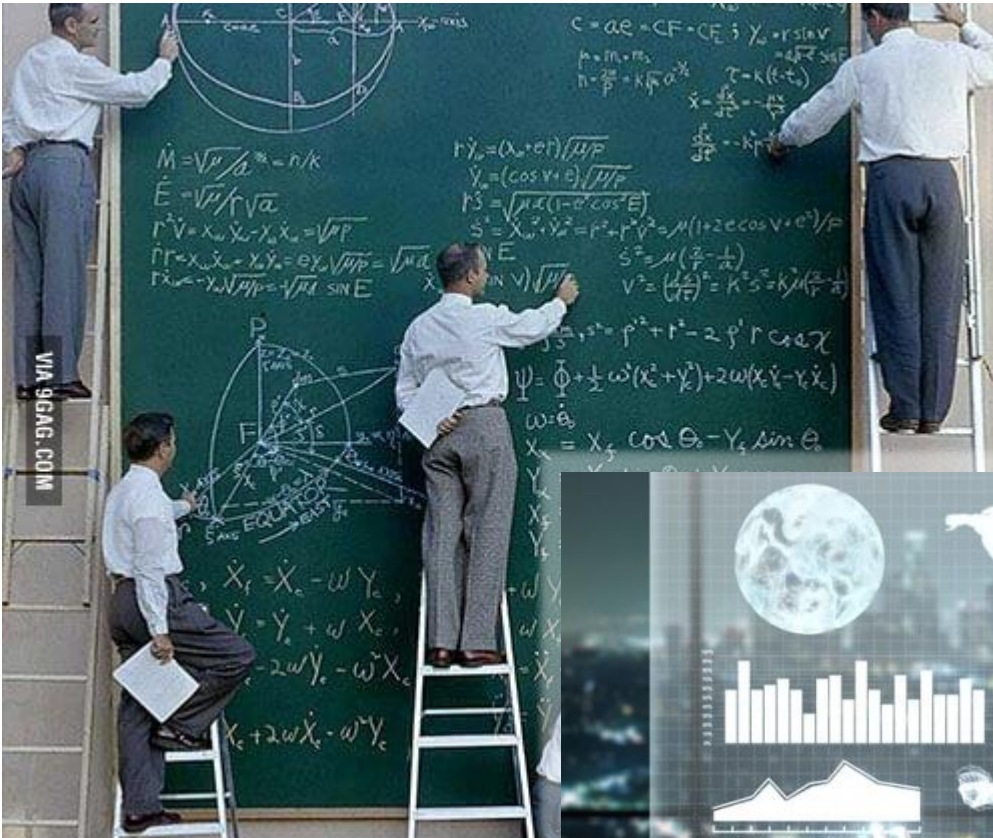
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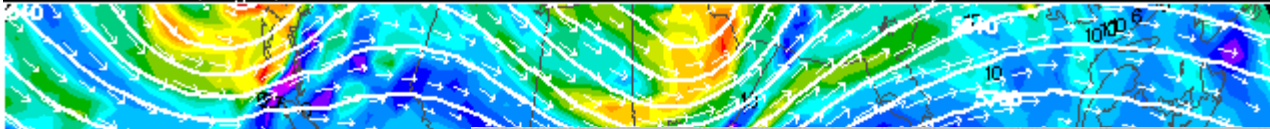


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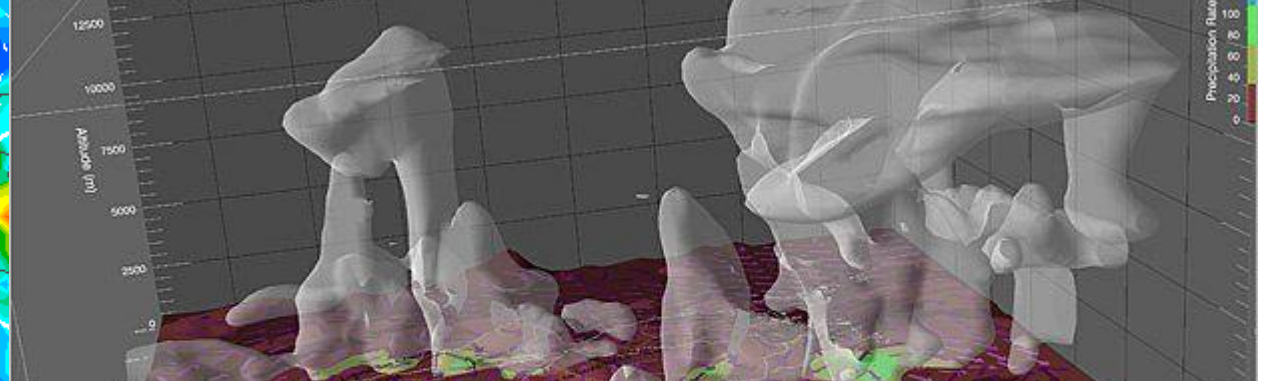
500mb AVort/Hght/Wind

GFS 5 day valid 12Z SAT 8 OCT 11



IBM Deep Thunder for Rio de Janeiro

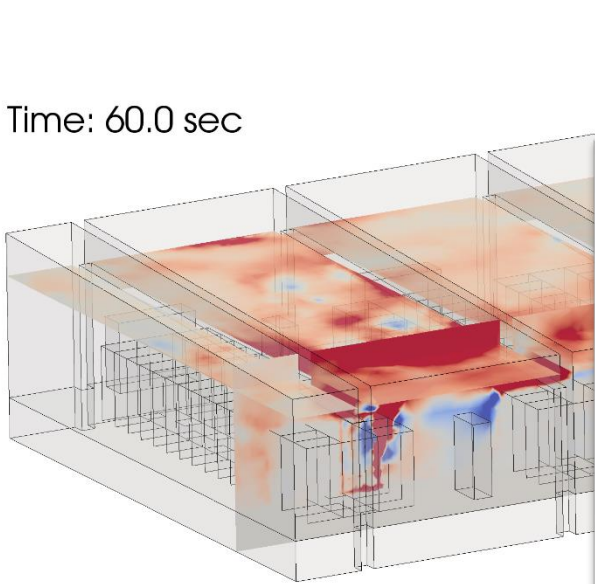
Surface Precipitation Rate and Winds
Cloud Water Density at 1.0e-03 kg/kg



05-Apr-2010 - 09:2

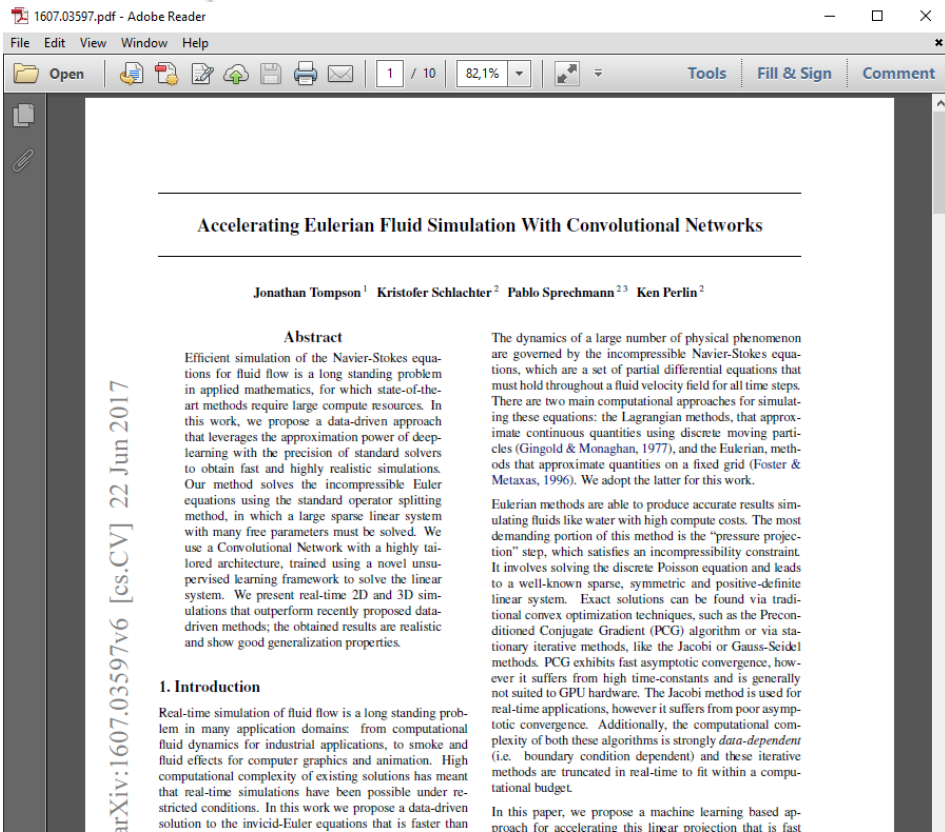
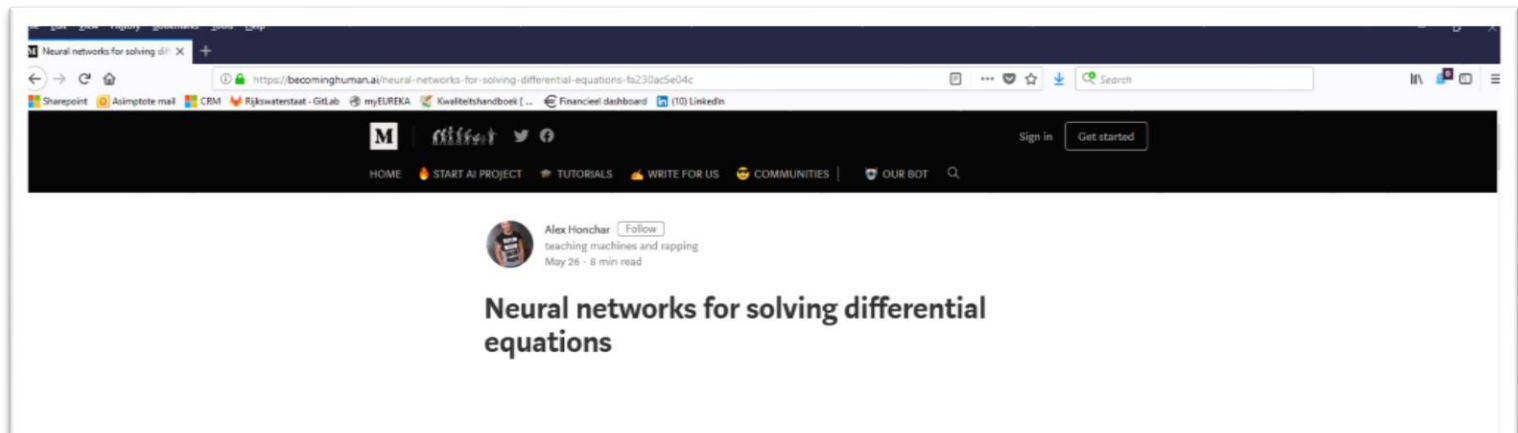


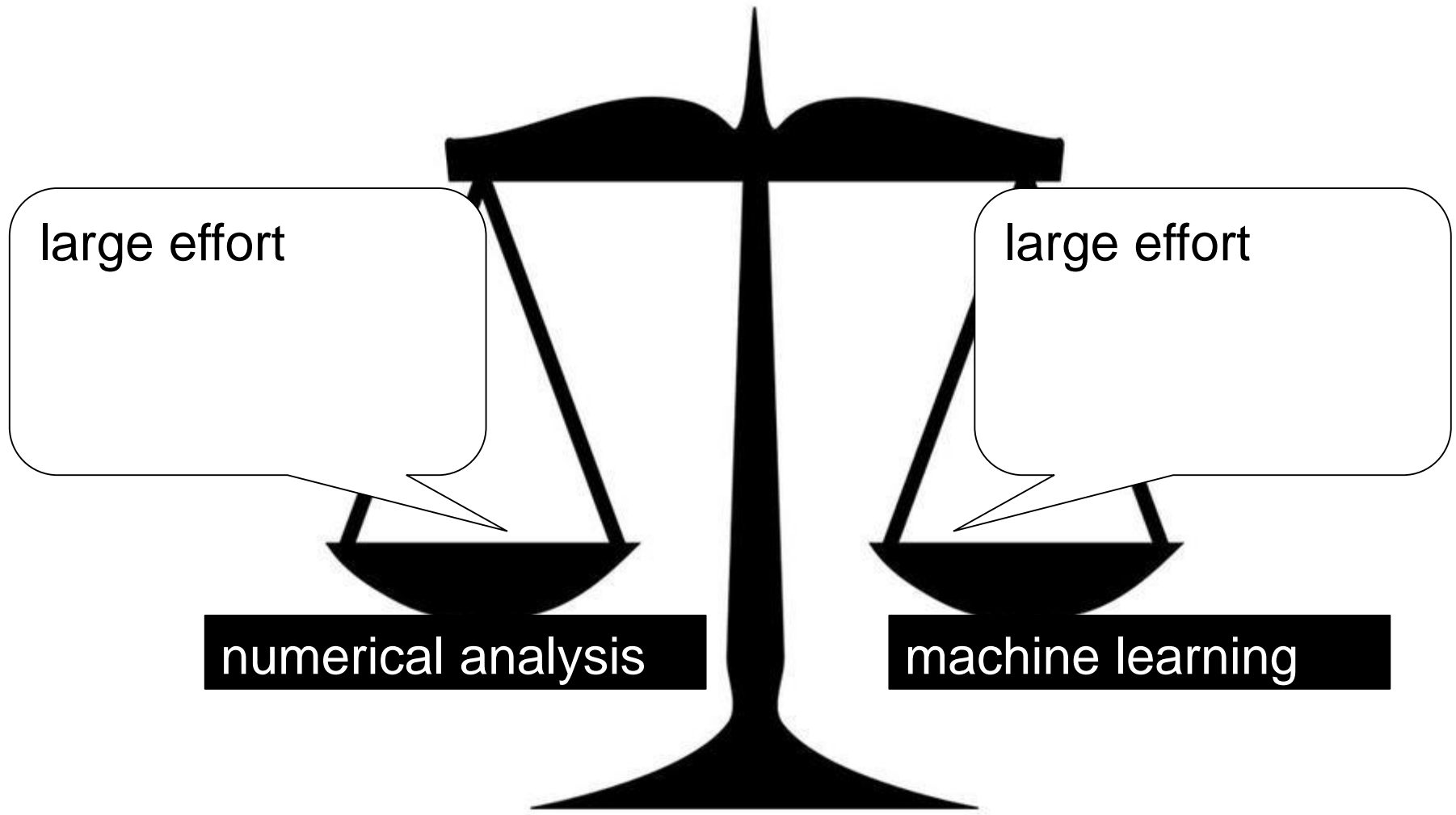
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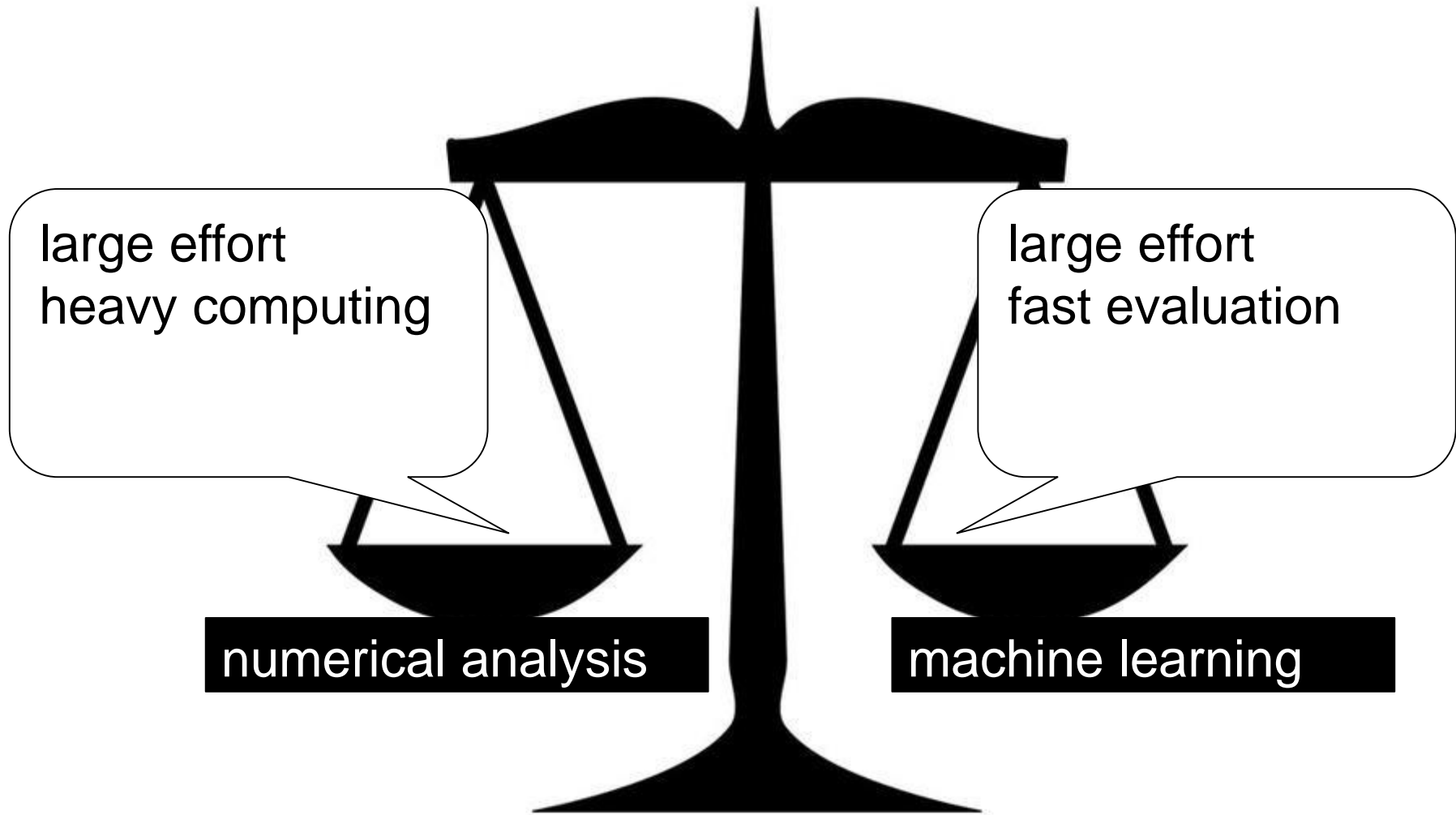


A screenshot of the Vigilent website. The browser address bar shows 'www.vigilent.com/technology/artificial-intelligence/'. The website header is blue with the Vigilent logo and tagline 'Optimizing Mission Critical Cooling'. Below the header, the main content area features the heading 'MACHINE LEARNING' followed by the sub-heading 'Analyze, learn, and adapt.' The text describes the Vigilent Dynamic Cooling Management System, which uses machine learning to analyze sensor data and optimize cooling performance. A green 'GET STARTED' button is visible. Below the main content, there is a section titled 'OUR APPROACH TO MACHINE LEARNING' with a sub-heading 'Artificial Intelligence'.



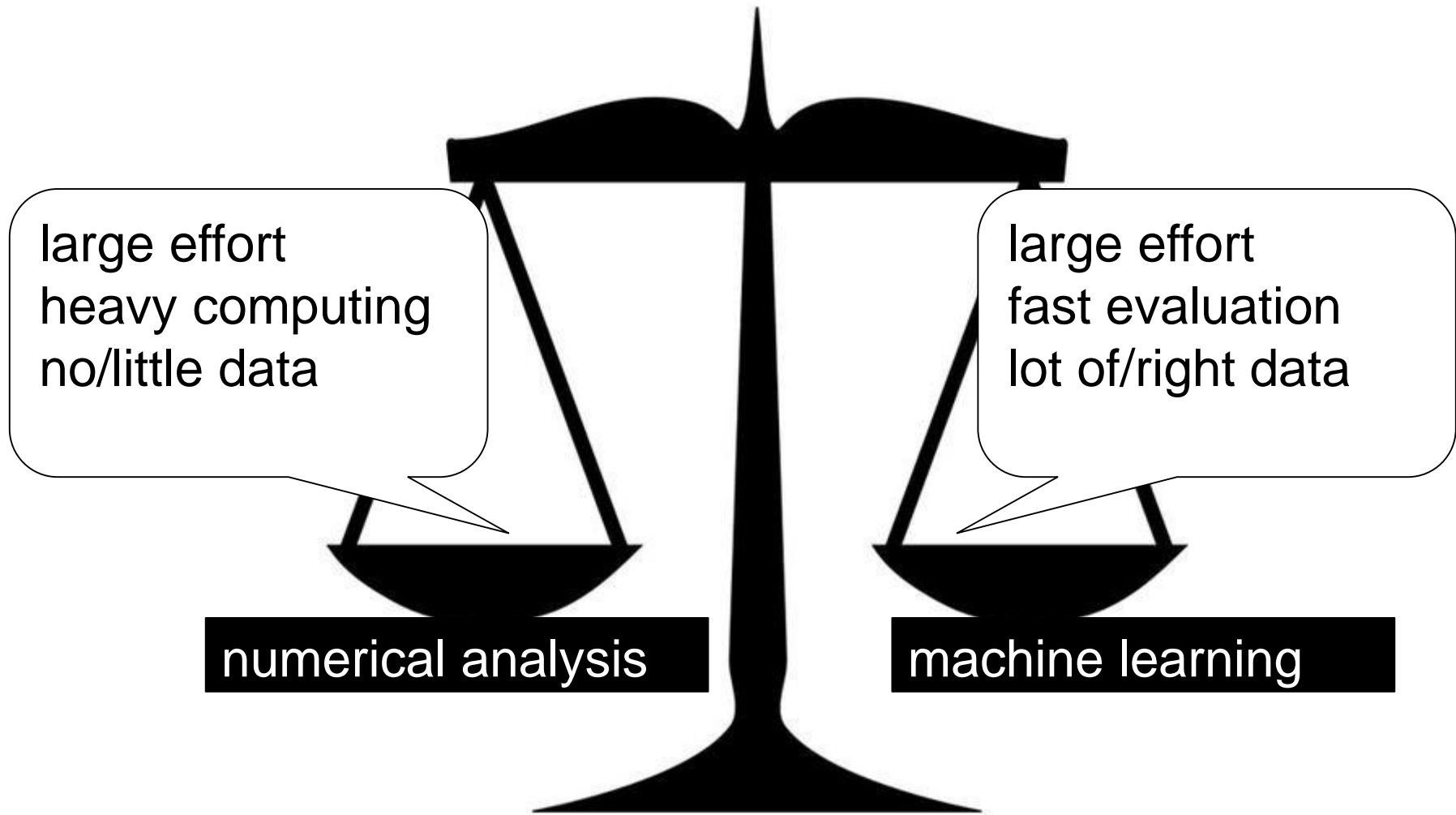




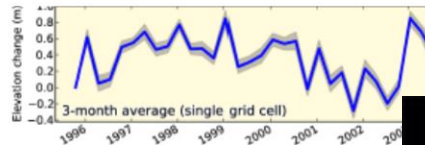




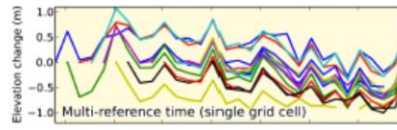
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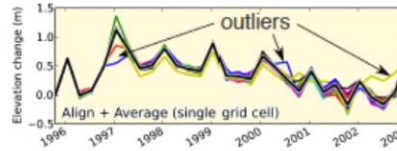
3-month average:
at 25 km bins,
improved signal-to-
noise ratio and no
gaps.



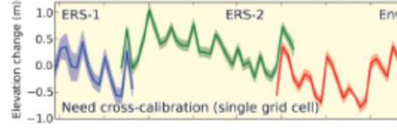
Form time series for
all possible
reference epochs.



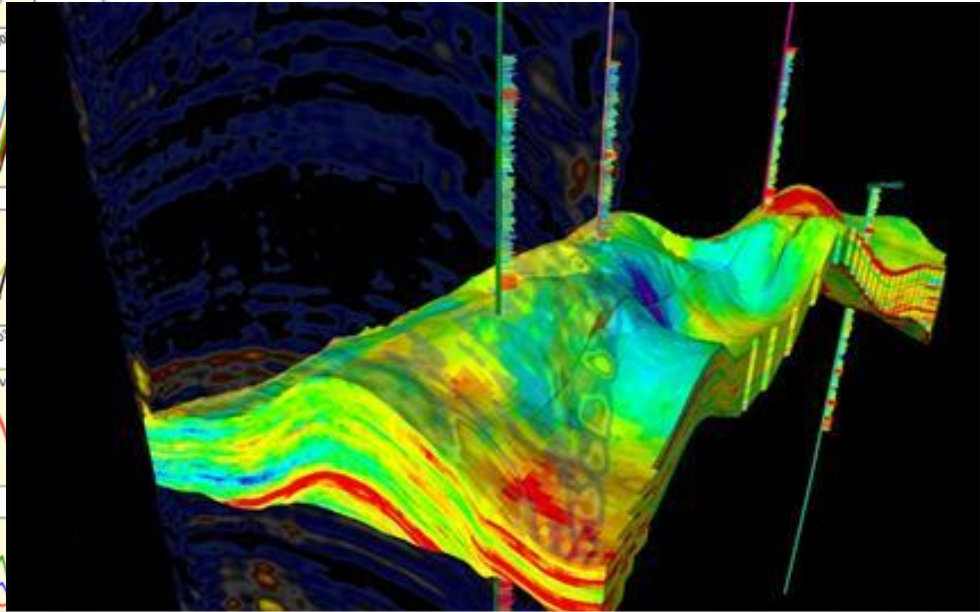
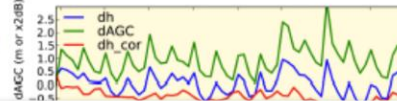
Frequency-weighted
average of aligned
multi-epoch time
series.



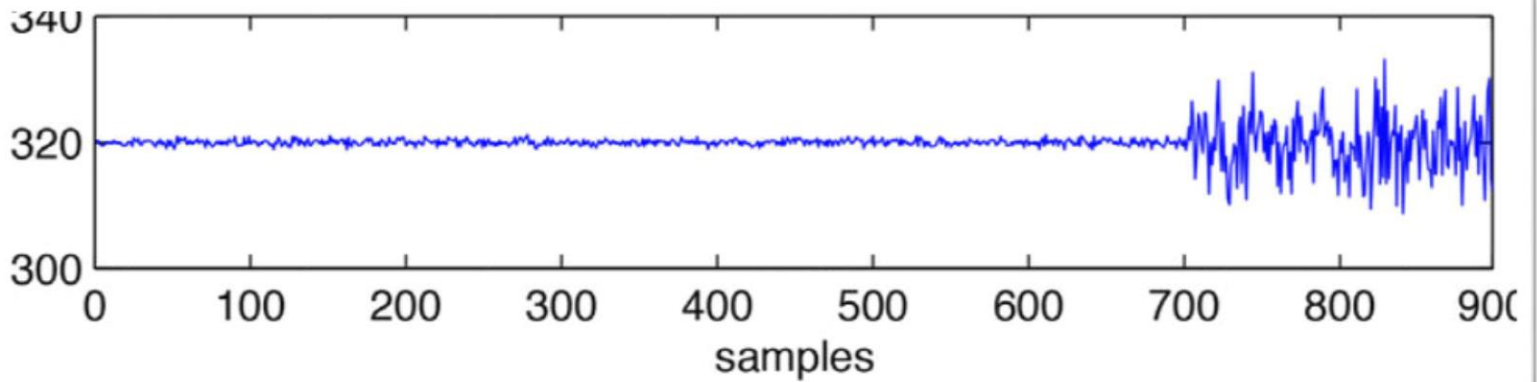
Cross-calibration
(overlap) of inter-
mission time series.

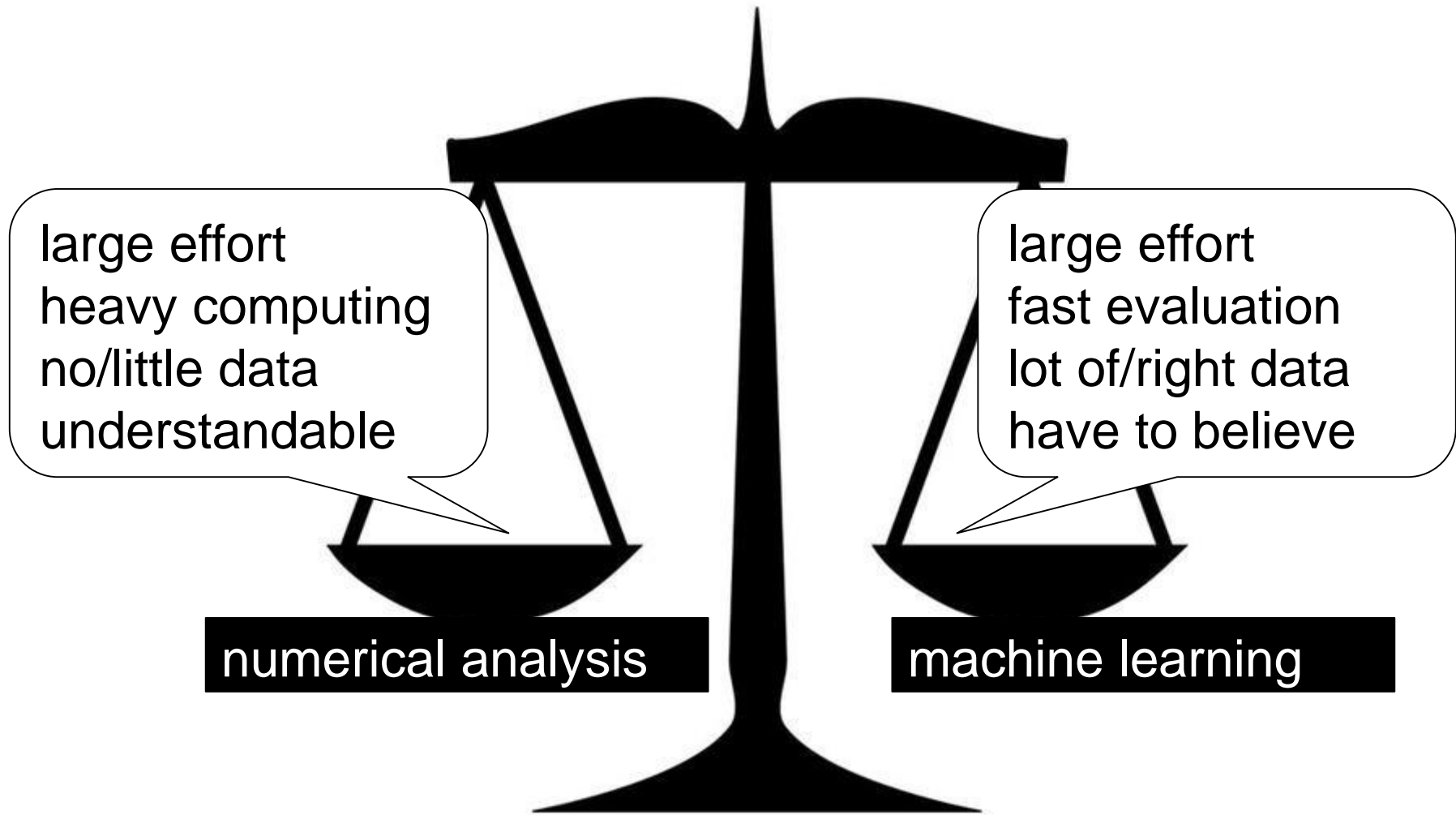


Correct for changes
in surface properties
(backscatter)



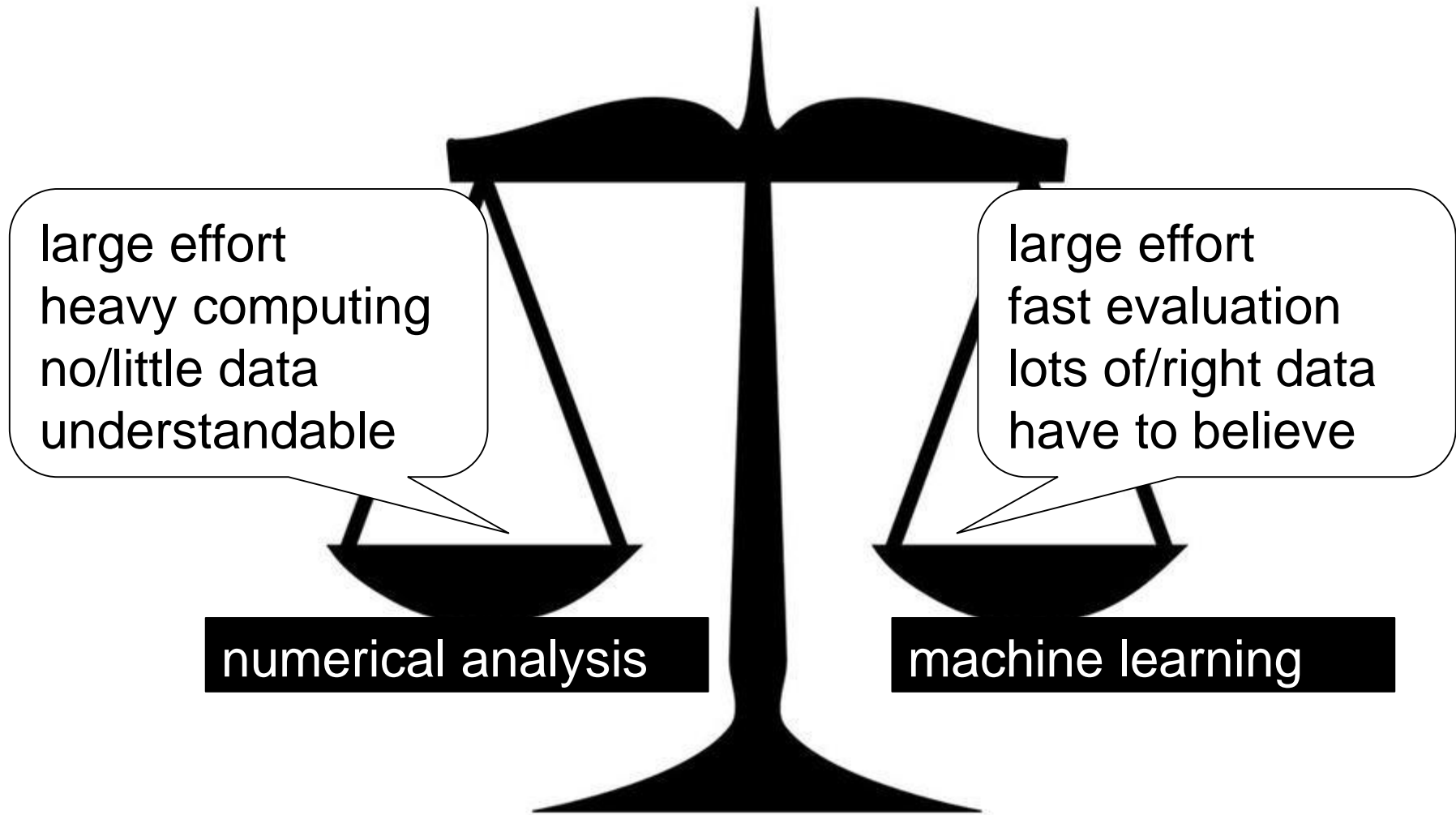
Separate
long-term
oscillations
trend.

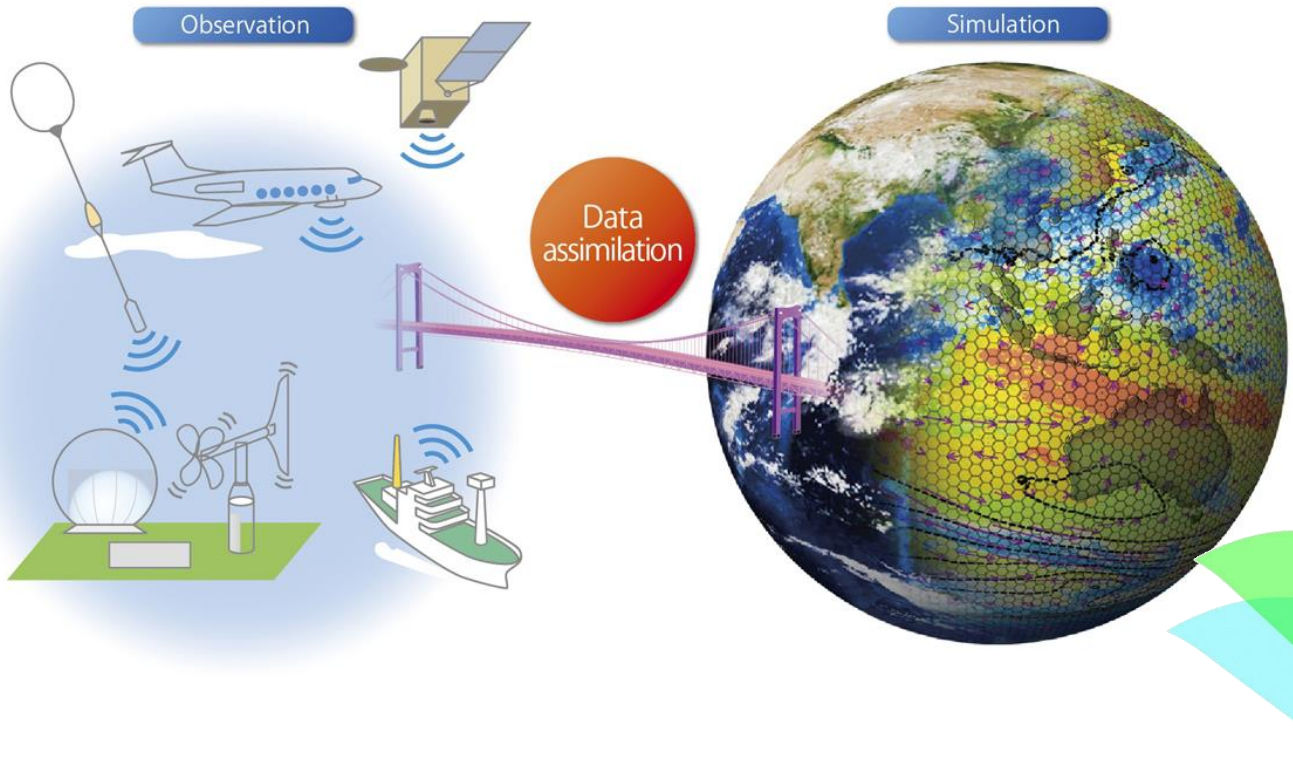






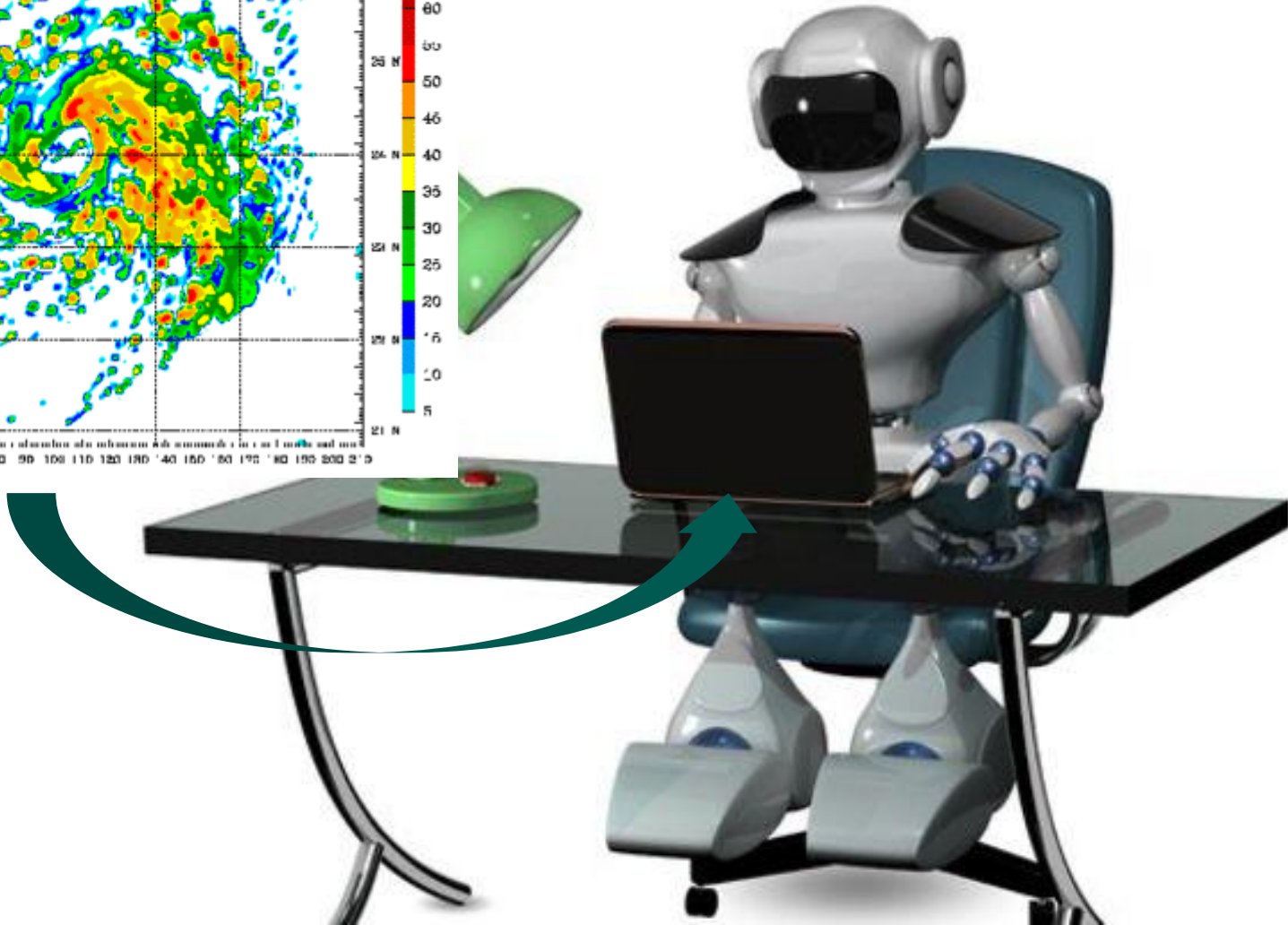
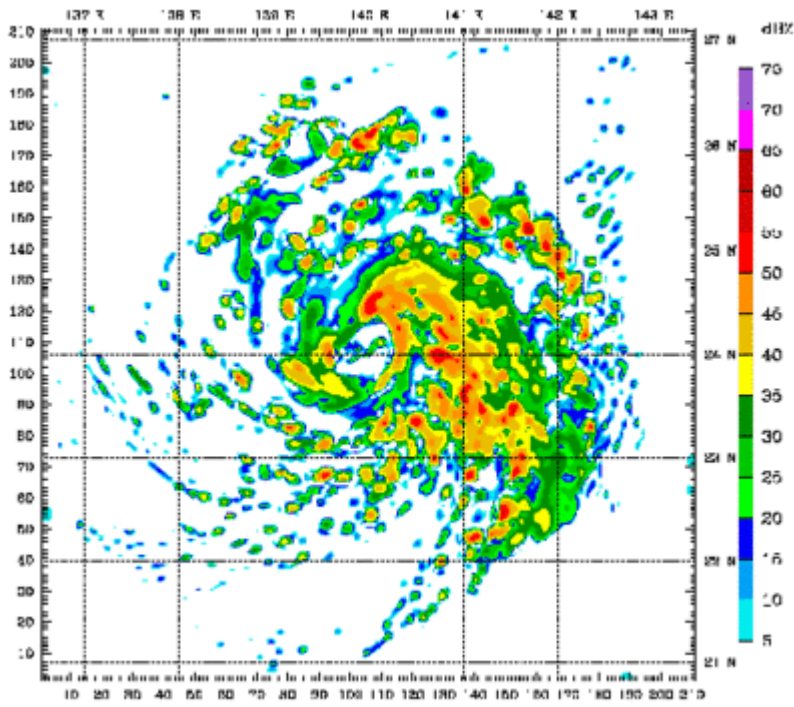
The boy is holding a baseball bat.





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Imagination-Based Decision Making with Physical Models in Deep Neural Networks

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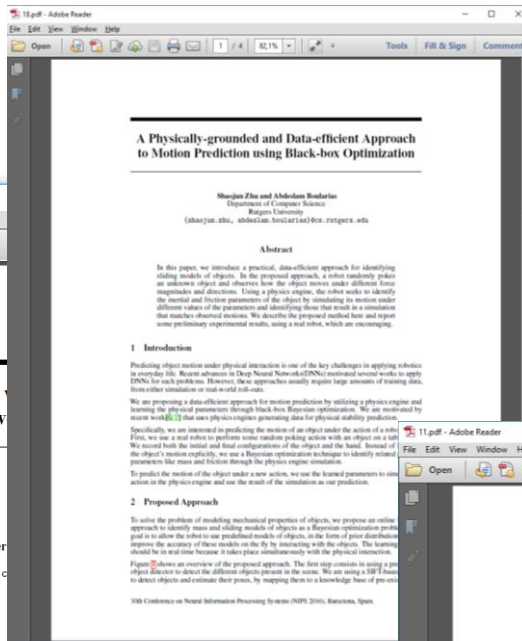
Abstract

Decision-making is challenging in continuous settings where complex events determine rewards, even when these event sequences are largely observable. In particular, traditional trial-and-error learning strategies may have a hard time associating continuous actions with their reward because of the size of the state space and the complexity of the reward function. Given a model of the world, a different strategy is to use *imagination* to exploit the knowledge embedded in that model. In this regime, the system directly optimizes the decision for each episode based on predictions from the model. We extend deep learning methods that have been previously used for model-free learning and apply them towards a model-based approach in which an *expert* is consulted multiple times in the agents' imagination before it takes an action in the world. We show preliminary results on a difficult physical reasoning task where our model-based approach outperforms a model-free baseline, even when using an inaccurate expert.

1 Introduction

While significant advances in deep learning have been made in areas of reinforcement learning [1, 2] and control [3], most efforts focus on optimization during learning rather than at decision time. On-line optimization methods, in which an agent can compute the best course of action on-the-fly, have been explored extensively in traditional machine learning, but have received little attention by deep learning-based efforts. Only recently has any work begun to address the problem of online computation in deep neural networks at all. For example, [4] proposed a method for *adaptive computation time* (ACT) in which the network learns to spend more time on more difficult problems. However, this approach assumes that the result of the computation will be an expectation, rather than an optimum. [5] trained a network to perform gradient descent updates for another network, outperforming existing black-box optimizers on several regression and classification tasks. To our knowledge, however, no one has yet investigated methods for online optimization in a deep learning regime during planning- or control-based tasks.

We present a method for model-based decision making in neural networks in which the optimization occurs online, and evaluate our approach on a difficult physical reasoning task. In this task, a force needs to be applied to a spaceship such that it will arrive at a particular location in space after a certain amount of time (Figure 1a). Importantly, the gravity of the surrounding planets affects the trajectory of the spaceship in highly nonlinear ways. We show that a model-free parameterized controller performs poorly on this task, but when it is allowed to perform additional online computation—i.e., trying out multiple actions using a model, which we term an *expert*—its performance improves significantly, even when the expert is inaccurate.



A Physically-grounded and Data-efficient Approach to Motion Prediction using Black-box Optimization

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Abstract

In this paper, we introduce a practical, data-efficient approach for identifying reliable models of objects. In the proposed approach, a robot randomly pushes an unknown object and observes how the object moves under different force magnitudes and directions. Using a physics engine, the robot seeks to identify the inertial and friction parameters of the object by simulating its motion under different values of the parameters and identifying those that result in a simulation that matches observed motion. We describe the proposed method here and report some preliminary experimental results, using a real robot, which are encouraging.

1 Introduction

Predicting object motion under physical interaction is one of the key challenges in applying robotics to everyday life. Recent advances in Deep Neural Networks (DNNs) motivated several works to apply DNNs for such problems. However, these approaches usually require large amounts of training data, from either simulation or real-world trials.

We are proposing a data-efficient approach for motion prediction by utilizing a physics engine and learning the physical parameters through black-box Regression optimization. We are motivated by recent works [1] that use physics engines generating data for physical stability prediction.

Specifically, we are interested in predicting the motion of an object under the action of a robot. Here, we use a model robot to perform some random pushing actions with an object on a table. We record both the initial and final configurations of the object and the hand. Instead of the object's motion explicitly, we use a simulation optimization technique to identify latent parameters like mass and friction through the physics engine simulation.

To predict the motion of the object under a new action, we use the learned parameters to solve action in the physics engine and use the result of the simulation as our prediction.

2 Proposed Approach

To solve the problem of modeling mechanical properties of objects, we propose an online approach to identify mass and sliding models of objects as a Regression optimization problem so to allow the robot to use generalized models of objects, in the form of prior distribution, to improve the accuracy of these models on the fly by interacting with the objects. The learning should be in real-time because it takes place simultaneously with the physical interaction.

Figure 1 shows an overview of the proposed approach. The first step consists in using an object detector to detect the different objects present in the scene. We use a RGB-D sensor to detect objects and estimate their pose, by mapping them to a knowledge base of pre-



A Compositional Object-Based Approach to Learning Physical Dynamics

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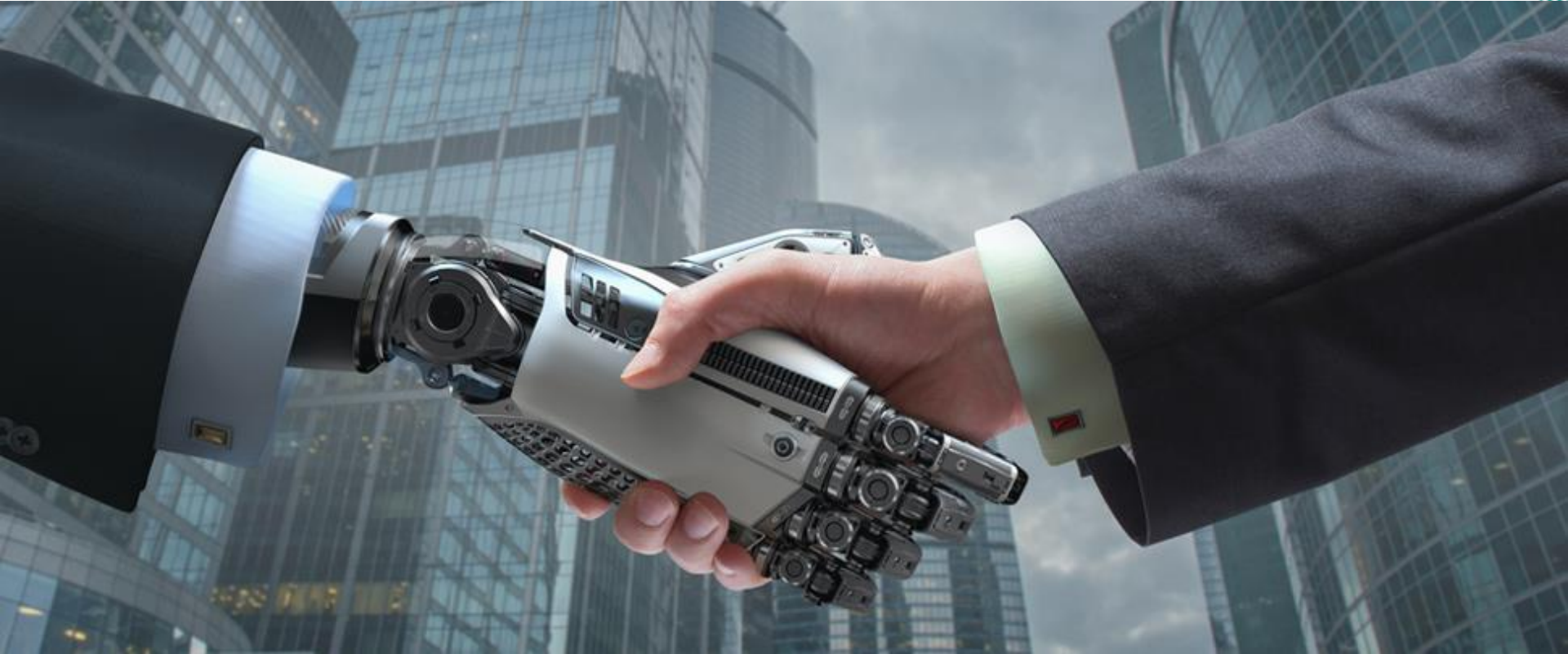
Abstract

This paper presents the Neural Physics Engine (NPE), an object-based neural network architecture for learning predictive models of intuitive physics. The NPE draws on the strengths of both symbolic and neural approaches: like a symbolic physics engine, it is endowed with generic notions of objects and their interactions, but as a neural network it can also be trained via stochastic gradient descent to adapt to specific object properties and dynamics of different worlds. We evaluate the efficacy of our approach on simple rigid body dynamics in two-dimensional worlds of bouncing balls. By comparing to less structured architectures, we show that the NPE's compositional representation of the causal structure in physical interactions improves its ability to predict movement, generalize to different numbers of objects, and infer latent properties of objects such as mass.

1 Introduction

A sense of intuitive physics can be seen as a program [1] that takes in input provided by a physical scene and the past states of objects and then outputs the future states and physical properties of relevant objects for a given task. At least two general approaches have emerged in the search for such a program that captures commonsense physical reasoning. The top-down approach [2, 3, 4] formulates the problem as inferring over the parameters of a symbolic physics engine, while the bottom-up approach [5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12] learns to directly map physical observations to motion prediction or physical judgments. A program under the top-down approach can express and generalize across any scenario supported by the entities and operators in its description language. However, it may be brittle under variation not supported by its description language, and adapting to these new scenarios requires modifying the code or generating new code for the physics engine itself. In contrast, the same model architecture and learning algorithm under gradient-based bottom-up approaches can be applied to new scenarios without requiring the physical dynamics of the scenario to be pre-specified. However, such models require extensive amounts of data, and oftentimes transferring knowledge to new scenes requires retraining, even in cases that seem trivial to human reasoning.

This paper takes a step toward bridging this gap between expressivity and adaptability by proposing a model that combines rough symbolic structure with gradient-based learning. We present the Neural Physics Engine (NPE), a predictive model of physical dynamics. It exhibits several strong inductive biases that are explicitly present in symbolic physics engines, such as a notion of objects and object interactions. It is also end-to-end differentiable and thus is also flexible to tailor itself to the specific object properties and dynamics of a given world through training. This approach—starting with a general sketch of a program and filling in the specifics—is similar to ideas presented by [13, 14]. The NPE's general sketch is the structure of its architecture, and it extends and refines this sketch to model the specifics of a particular scene by training on observed trajectories from that scene.



Constructive comments are welcome



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