

Frugal AI solutions for India from IITK



Nitin Saxena

(joint works with Nisheeth, Sruti, Aditya, Sayak)

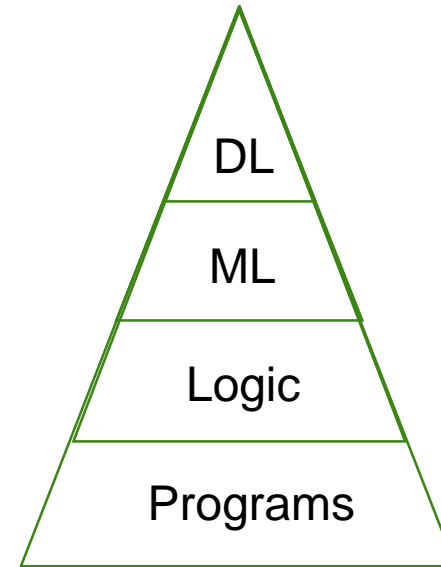
IIT Kanpur AI for India

Coordinator, Center for Developing Intelligent Systems +
Dean, Wadhvani School of AI & Intelligent Systems +
N.Rama.Rao.Chair Professor (HAG), CSE +
Founding Director, CDIS Private Limited

IIT Kanpur

What is machine intelligence?

- **Simple programs**
 - If the password matches the database entry, let the person in
- **Logical reasoning**
 - If someone tries to buy a ticket, make sure there are tickets available before charging them
- **ML** (Machine Learning)
 - If your database row has this mean/average, you collect it
- **DL** (Deep Learning)
 - Just give me labelled data and get out of my way



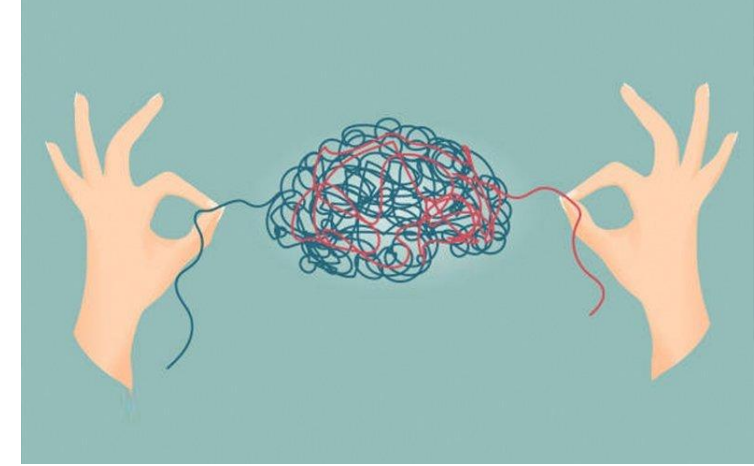
AI – a layperson's definition



- Any computing system that
 - does something that machines couldn't do before.
- *Corollary: the AI effect*
 - Anytime machines start doing something **intelligent, en masse**, it is no longer considered AI!
- Examples of AI systems that are **no longer** considered AI
 - Chess solvers
 - OCR (Optical character recognition)
 - Automated assembly lines
 - Automated CNC lathes (Computer Numerical Control)

AI and complexity

- The AI effect: **if you understand it, it isn't AI.**
- **Consequence:** apply AI to everything we don't understand how to do.
 - AI for health-care
 - AI for mental-health
 - AI for music-writing
 - AI for governance
- Apparent logic:
 - We don't understand AI +
 - We don't understand how to do X →
 - AI will understand how to do X.

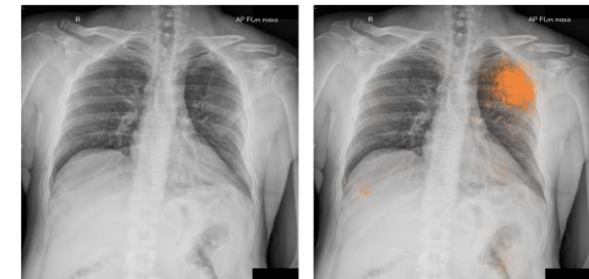


(a) Three samples in criminal ID photo set S_c .



(b) Three samples in non-criminal ID photo set S_n .

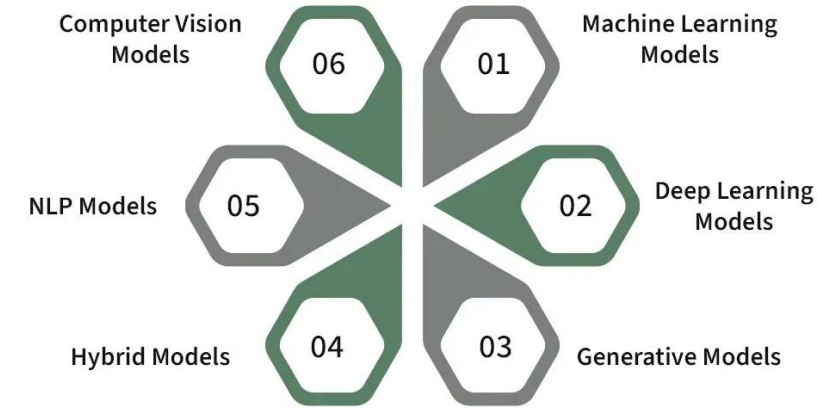
Figure 1. Sample ID photos in our data set.



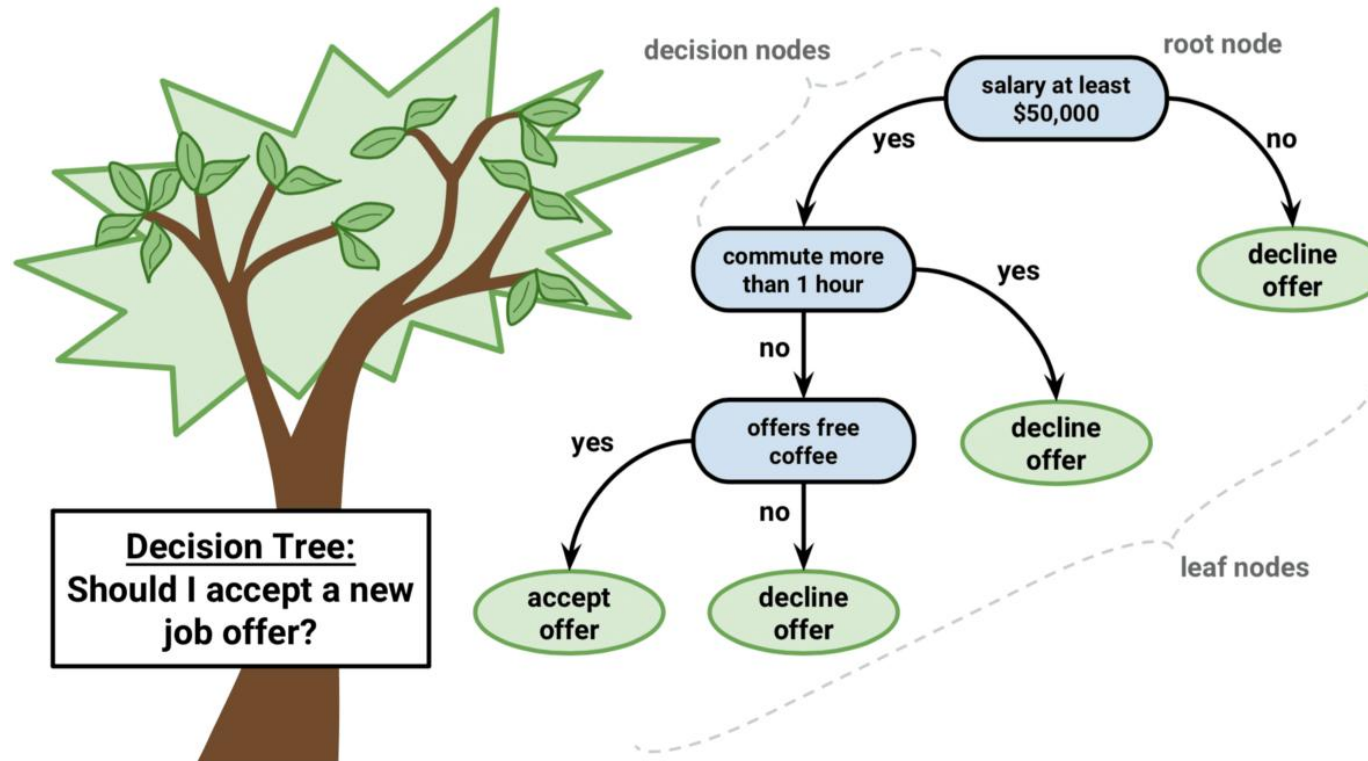
What does the AI see?

- It sees **models** of the world
- Models can be simple or **COMPLEX**
- Simple programs see simple models
- **COMPLEX** programs see **COMPLEX** models

- All models are wrong, some are useful.
- Understanding and fixing simple models is easier than doing this for complex models.



Example 1 →



Simple model: Decision tree

Example 2 →

```
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
from tensorflow.keras.models import Sequential
from tensorflow.keras.layers import Dense

data = {
    'feature1': [0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5],
    'feature2': [0.5, 0.4, 0.3, 0.2, 0.1],
    'label': [0, 0, 1, 1, 1]
}

df = pd.DataFrame(data)

X = df[['feature1', 'feature2']].values
y = df['label'].values

model = Sequential()

model.add(Dense(8, input_dim=2, activation='relu'))
model.add(Dense(1, activation='sigmoid'))

model.compile(loss='binary_crossentropy', optimizer='adam', metrics=['accuracy'])

model.fit(X, y, epochs=100, batch_size=1, verbose=1)

test_data = np.array([[0.2, 0.4]])

prediction = model.predict(test_data)
predicted_label = (prediction > 0.5).astype(int)
print(f"Predicted label: {predicted_label[0][0]}")
```

Activation functions introduce non-linearity into the network enabling it to learn and model complex data patterns.

Common activation functions include:

Sigmoid: $\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{(1+e^{-x})}$

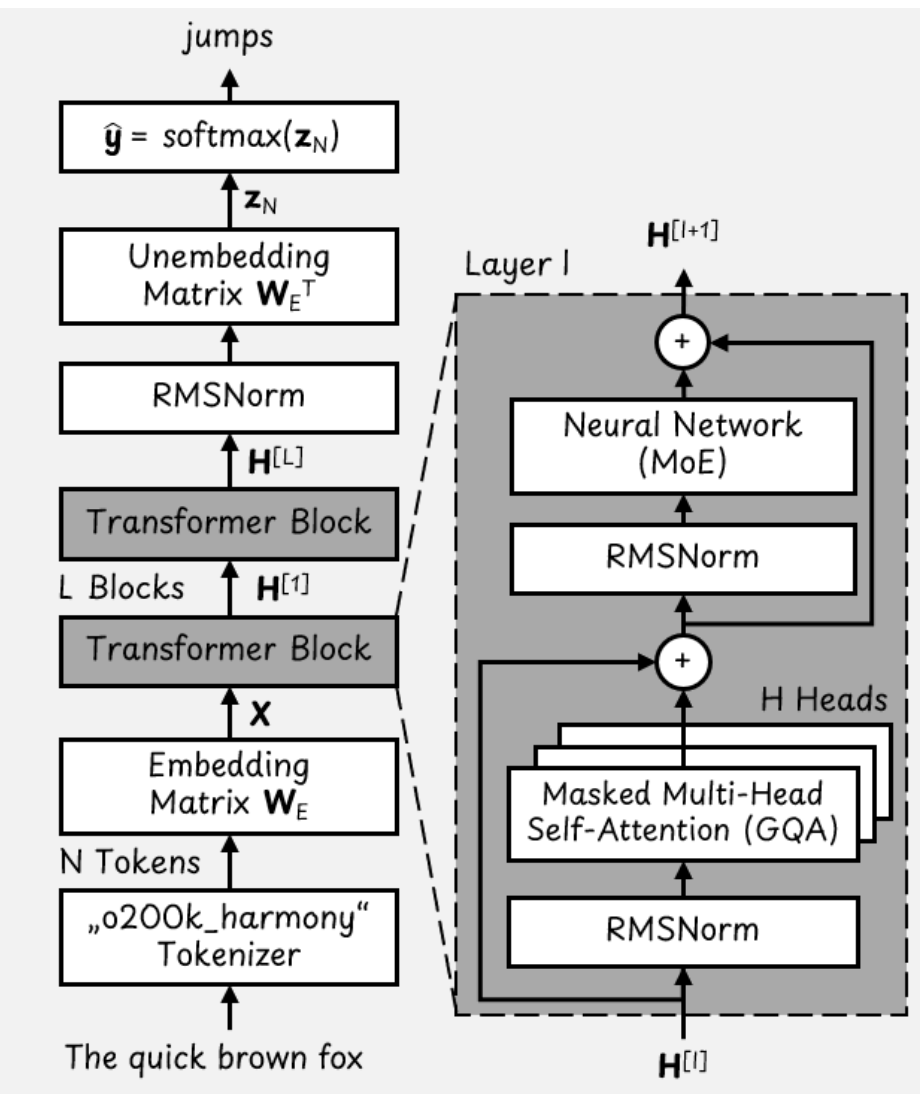
Hyperbolic tangent: $\tanh(x) = \frac{(e^x - e^{-x})}{(e^x + e^{-x})}$

Rectified Linear Unit: $\text{ReLU}(x) = \max(0, x)$

Complex model: Neural Network

Example 3 →

Highly-Complex model: LLM Architecture



Tokenizer: converts the input sentence into a list of tokens.

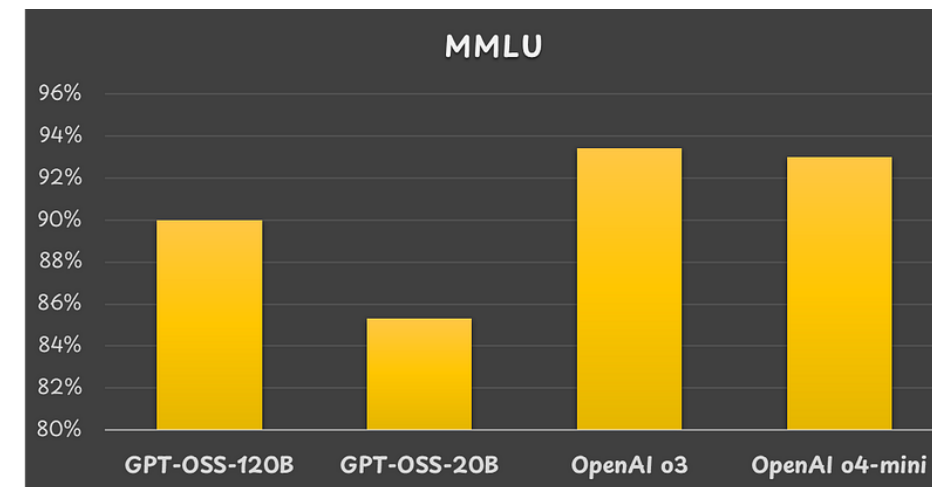
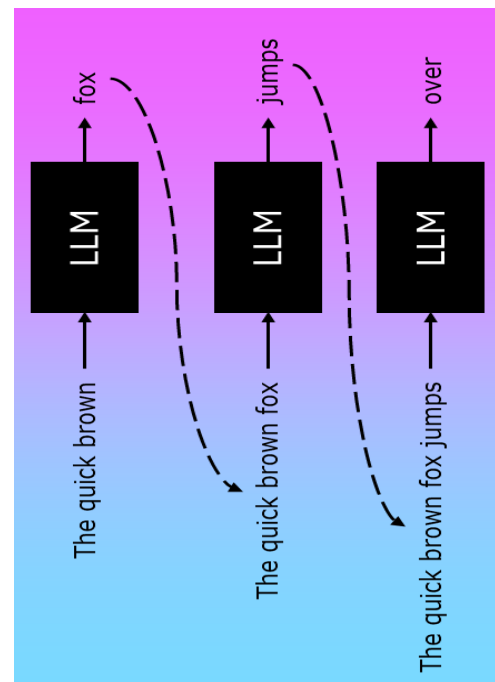
Embedding: transforms the list of tokens into a dense matrix.

Self-attention mask: tells the model which words to pay attention to and which ones to skip over.

MoE (mixture of experts): the router selects multiple experts with different weights.

Unembedding: transforms the embedding vectors back into token space.

Softmax: converts each of the probable tokens (=logits) into **probabilities**.



Massive Multitask Language Understanding (MMLU) benchmark results.

Could AI be trusted?

- AI systems *cannot* be evaluated using software engineering quality testing
 - Governance of AI systems must recognize this basic fact
- Modern AI systems can sometimes fail in unexpected ways
- AI systems must demonstrate that they do what they claim to do, to show they are **trustworthy**

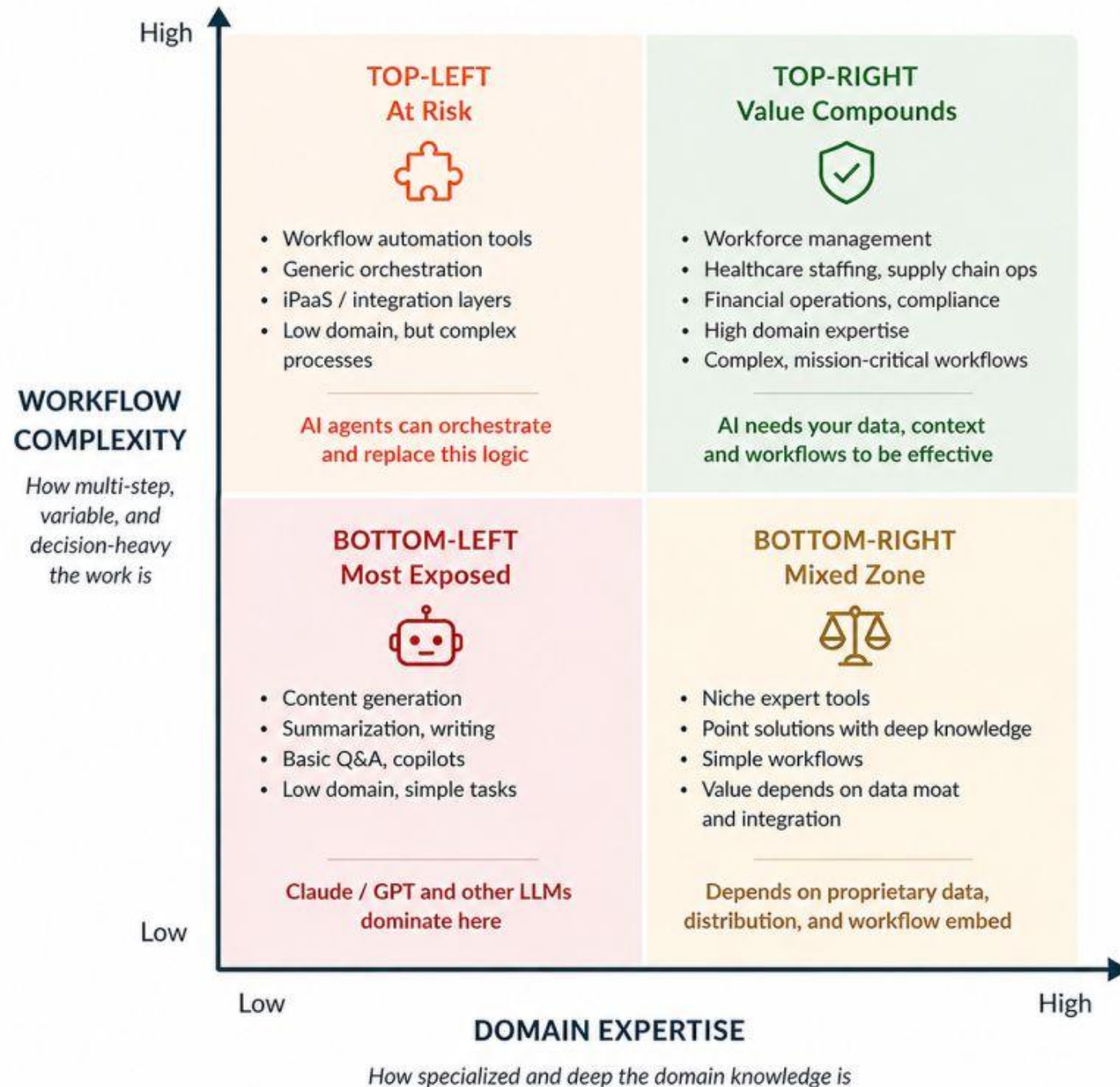
AI will not necessarily be bad or good.

All we know for sure is that it will be alien and it will be fallible.

-Yuval Noah Harari



Could AI eat Software?



There's a take going around that AI will "eat software."
That's directionally right but dangerously ...more



Suresh Vitalal | 2nd
Chief Product Officer & EVP at UKG | HC...

+ Follow

Could AI reduce cost?

THE COST BARRIER: WHY AI AND LLMs STRUGGLE ON THE EDGE

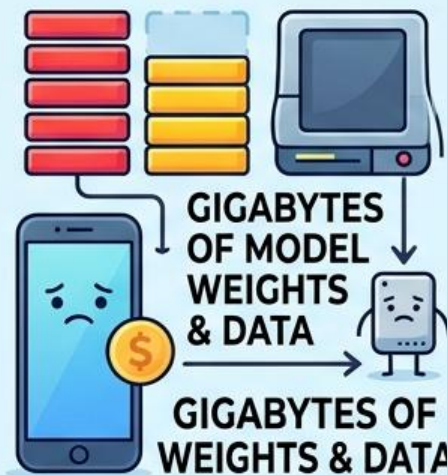
1 HIGH COMPUTATION REQUIREMENTS



POWERFUL CHIPS & NUMEROUS OPERATIONS

EDGE HARDWARE IS LIMITED

2 EXCESSIVE MEMORY USAGE



LLMs HAVE MASSIVE STORAGE NEEDS

3 HIGH ENERGY CONSUMPTION



DRAINS BATTERY LIFE QUICKLY

INCREASES ELECTRICITY COSTS

4 NETWORK & BANDWIDTH LIMITS



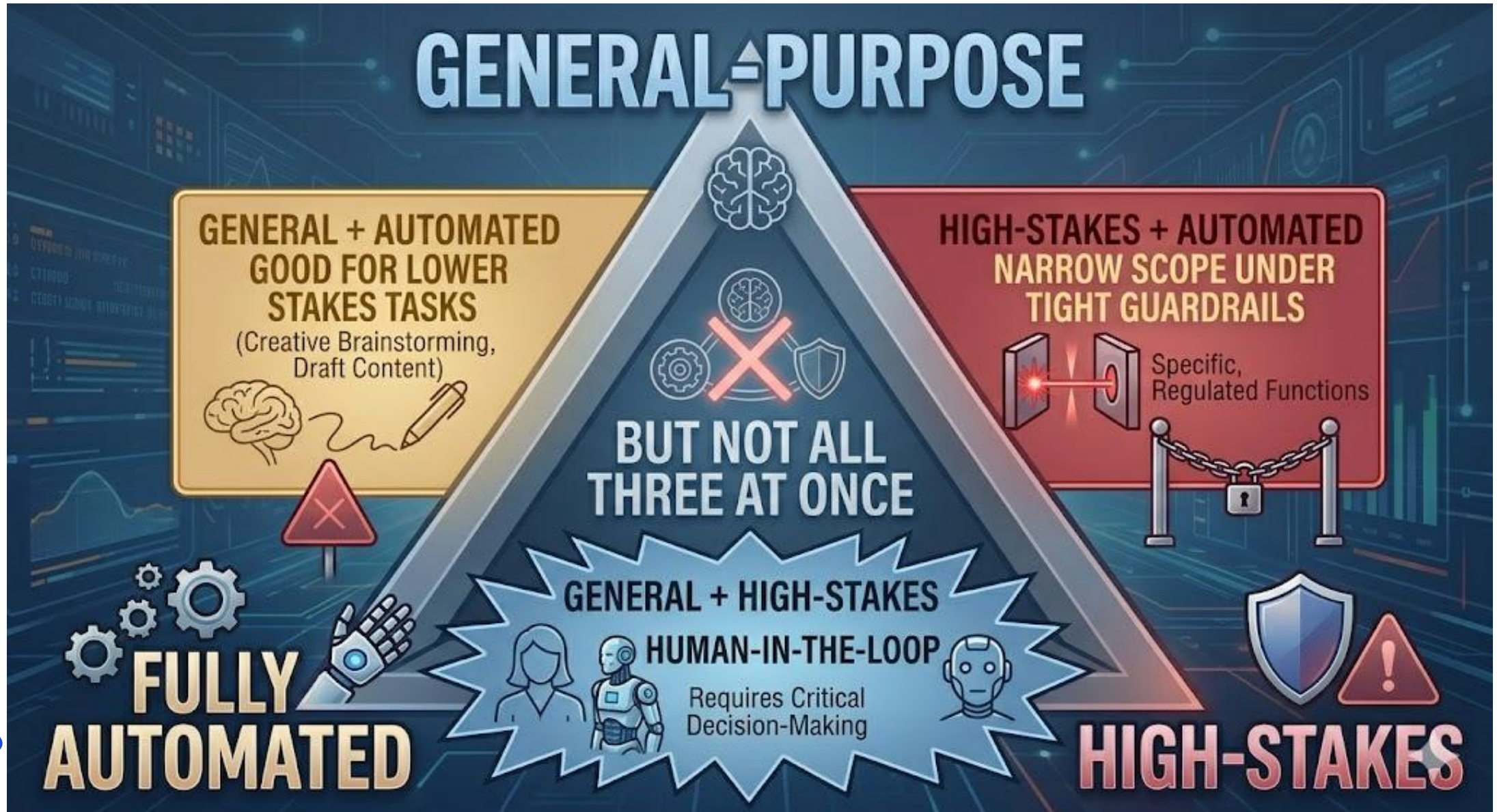
FREQUENT CLOUD COMMUNICATION NEEDED

HIGH DATA TRANSFER COST & LATENCY



LIMITING FEASIBILITY FOR REAL-TIME & STANDALONE APPLICATIONS

The AI Agents Trilemma





What's IIT Kanpur doing?

WSAIS: Wadhvani School of AI & Intelligent Systems

- Department of Intelligent Systems (DIS)
 1. Wadhvani Center for Developing Intelligent Systems (CDIS)
 2. Wadhvani Center for Cybersecurity and Cybersecurity of Cyber-physical Systems (C3i)
 3. Wadhvani Center for Robotics (CR)
 4. Wadhvani Center for AI Policy and Outreach (CAPO).
- Sustainable Cities AI-CoE (ARF)
- Cybersecurity CoE (C3iHub)

A hand is shown holding a red string, with the string forming a complex, interconnected pattern. The background is dark. A white circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text 'Use-cases: AI for ...'. A small blue circle is located at the bottom-left corner of the white circle. To the right of the white circle, there is a list of three items: 'Sensing', 'Deciding', and 'Acting'. A dashed cyan line is visible on the right side of the image.

Use-cases:

AI for ...

- Sensing
- Deciding
- Acting

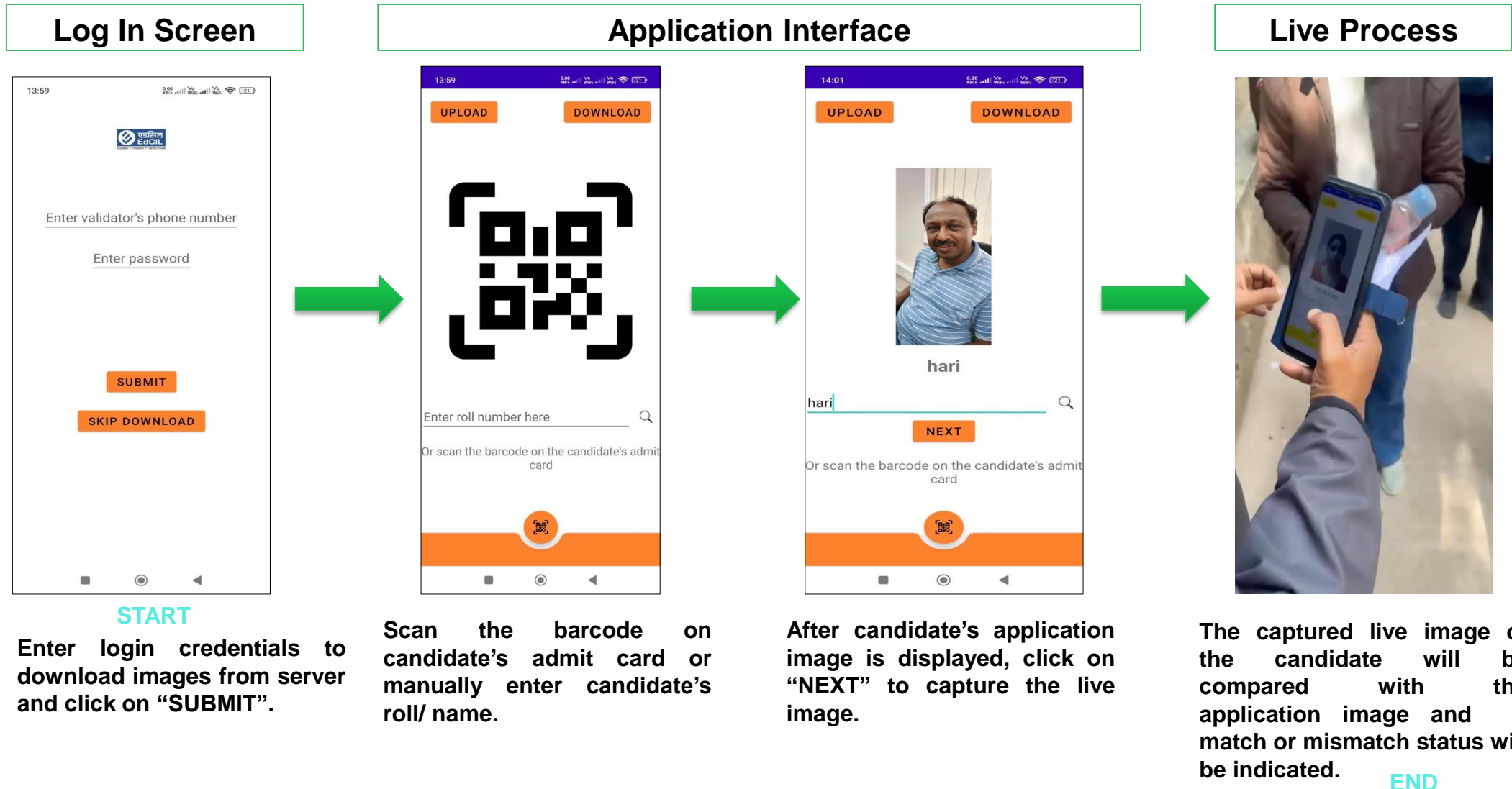
AI for sensing



Face Recognition App (Edge-AI, High-stakes)

- Runs on local smartphone, no internet.
- Uses TensorFlow-Lite for lightweight, fast inference.
- Face data processed locally.
- Reduces cloud usage and latency.

Work Flow (FR App)

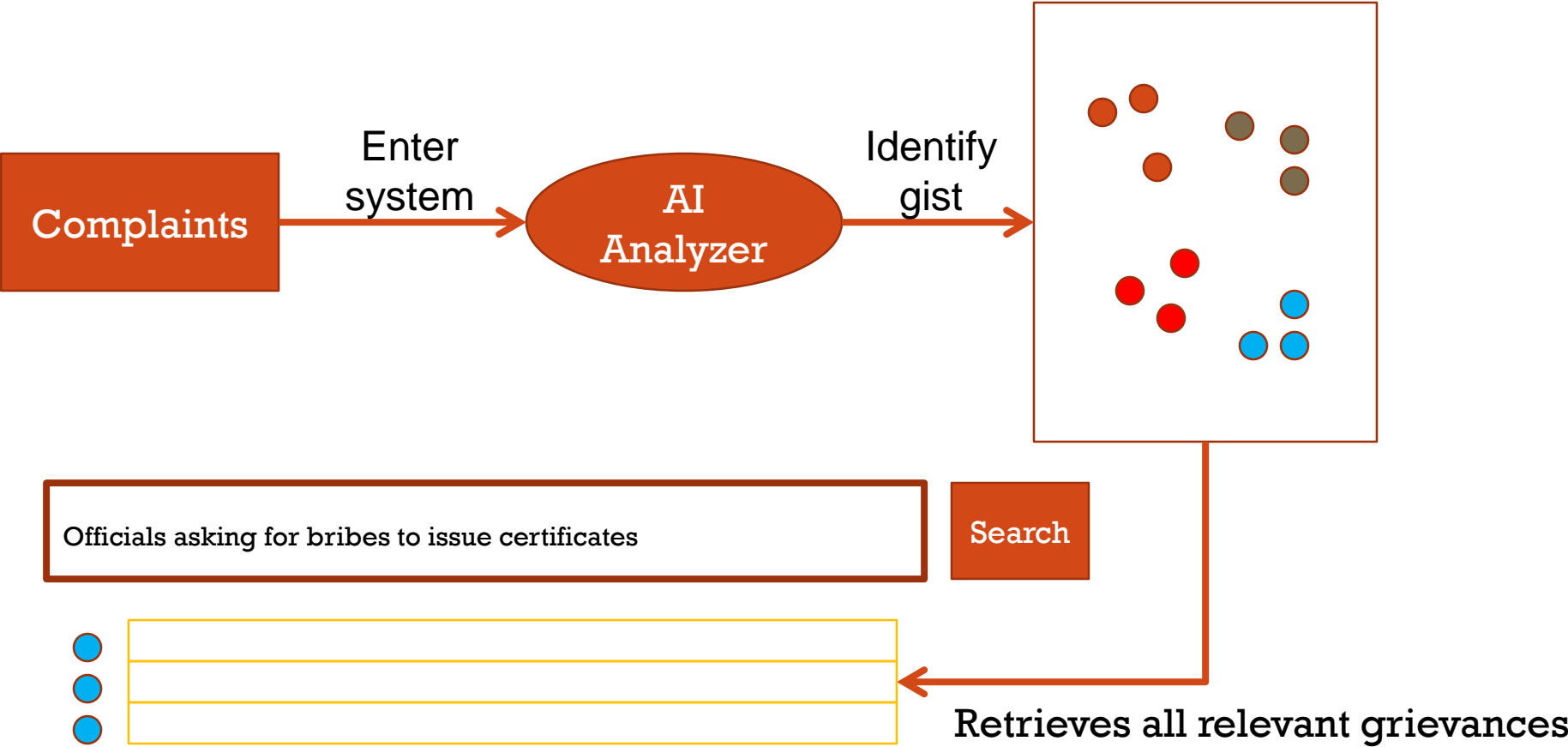


Automated Land Parcel Detection (General-purpose)

Land Parcel Detection from drone imagery



Sensing citizens' intent (General-purpose)



Deployed for all central government departments and ministries since Feb 2023



Detecting structure within documents (General-purpose)

RAJRATAN GLOBAL WIRE LIMITED ORIGINAL FOR RECIPIENT

SUPPLY CUM TAX INVOICE

GSTIN: 23AABCR4530Q1Z8 PAN No: AABCR4530Q
 Ack No: 162110494814881 Eway Bill No:
 Ack Date: 31-03-2021 4:09:00 PM Eway Bill Date:
 IRN: c1861626c41187046ac5861baac996a081642694c22696c226a482024
 Date of Supply: 31/03/2021
 Details of Receiver / Shipped to: Transporter: PITHAMPUR BOMBAY ROADWAYS Invoice No: SIFA20212977
 GANGOTRI CORP LLP Vehicle No: MP09GH6921 Invoice Date: 31/03/2021
 GROUND FLOOR, GALA NO 4 P.O. No: EMAIL State: MADHYA PRADESH
 SNEHA IND ESTATE, EKVIRA GAS GODOWN, MAHARASHTRA Date: 05-03-2021 State Code: 23
 pin No: 401305 Destination: BHAYANDAR DO. No: SDFAC031469
 Buyers GSTIN No: 27AARFG1763H1Z1 Date: 09-03-2021
 Shipping Address:

Name of Product / Service	HSN / ACS	Quantity in Nos.	Quantity in MT	Rate / MT	Amount
BLACK WIRE 1.83MM	72171020	COILS_25	2,222	71,900.00	58428.60
BLACK WIRE 1.50 MM	72171020	COILS_25	2,257	71,800.00	52052.60
BLACK WIRE 1.63MM	72171020	COILS_32	2,915	71,800.00	92297.00
PATENTED BASE WIRE 2.60MM	72171030	COILS_13	2,368	65,100.00	154156.80

Taxable Value: 68995.00
 CGST %: 0.00
 SGST %: 0.00
 IGST 18.00%: 12218.30
 TDS @ 0.075%: 895.39
 Round Off: 0.41
 Gross Wt: 9.795
 Packing: 0.033
 Net Wt: 9.762
 GST Payable on Reverse Charge: Nil
 Rupees: Eight Lacs Seven Thousand Six Hundred Forty Nine only
 Remarks: For RAJRATAN GLOBAL WIRE LIMITED
 Certified that the particulars given above are true and correct and the amount indicated represents the price actually charged and that there is no flow of additional consideration directly or indirectly from the buyer.
 Payment Terms:
 1. Interest will be charged @16%, if invoice is not paid by due date.
 2. All Disputes shall be subject to Jurisdiction of Indore (M.P.) Courts.
 3. Interest on Late Payment will attract to GST.
 AUTHORISED SIGNATORY

Rajasthan State Health Assurance
Swasthya Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur
 Date: 30-01-2021 05

Challan

Patient / Beneficiary Details

UID Number: 128012110515304	Patient Name: Amar Singh	Case Type: Normal
Registration Type: Bhamashah Family	Hospital Name: Getwell Hospital And Trauma Center	Admission Date: 28-Jan-2021
Registration Number: WFBOYSS	Hospital Type: Private	Discharge Date: 30/01/2021

Booked Package Details

S No.	Package Name	Package Code	Package Category	Package Rate
1	Medical Treatment of Trauma (Unemployed with Single Cell Lodging)	09100020A	Tertiary	INR 15,000.00
Total				INR 15,000.00

Remaining Amount:

Secondary Wallet	Tertiary Wallet
INR 24,750.00	INR 203,250.00

Note: Your medical treatment is totally free of cost to you under Bhamashah Swasthya Bima Yojana.

Signing Authority: [Signature]
 Hospital Name: Getwell Hospital And Trauma Center

Satisfaction Certificate

Name of Patient: Amar Singh
 Medical No: [Blank]

I/We hereby declare that I/We have taken medical treatment at aforesaid hospital and hospital has not charged me for any expenses made during/for the medical treatment. I/We further giving feedback based on my/our experience as mentioned below.

Is any amount/money taken/charged by the hospital against your medical treatment (if yes) please state its/their purpose/money was taken/charged by the hospital and how much? Yes / No

Am I/We satisfied with the medical treatment provided by the hospital (if no) please state the reason below? Yes / No

Note: Patient's are advised to mandatorily take a duplicate copy of the invoice from the hospital.

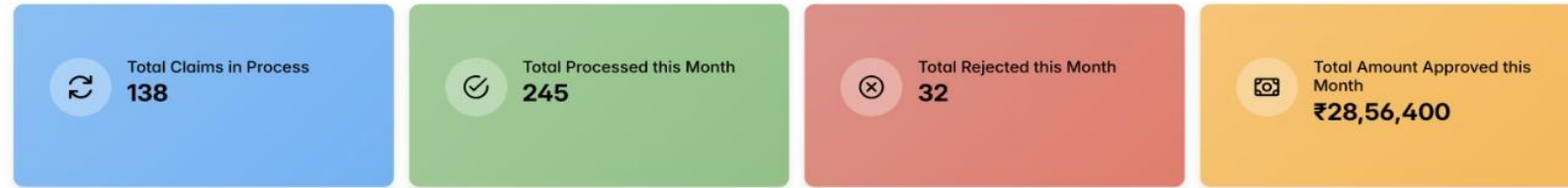
Signature of Patient of Thumb Impression: R. H. Thump



AI for deciding

ECHS (Edge-AI)

- ECHS (Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme), with *document labeling* as one module.
- Classifies documents *locally*, minimizing server compute.
- OCR extracts text from PDFs/ images; *lightweight preprocessing* ensures efficiency.
- Keyword-based *labeling* reduces heavy ML model requirements, with optional scoring for accuracy.



Enter claim ID to search

or

Select date range | Select City

Min Amount | Max Amount

Apply Filters

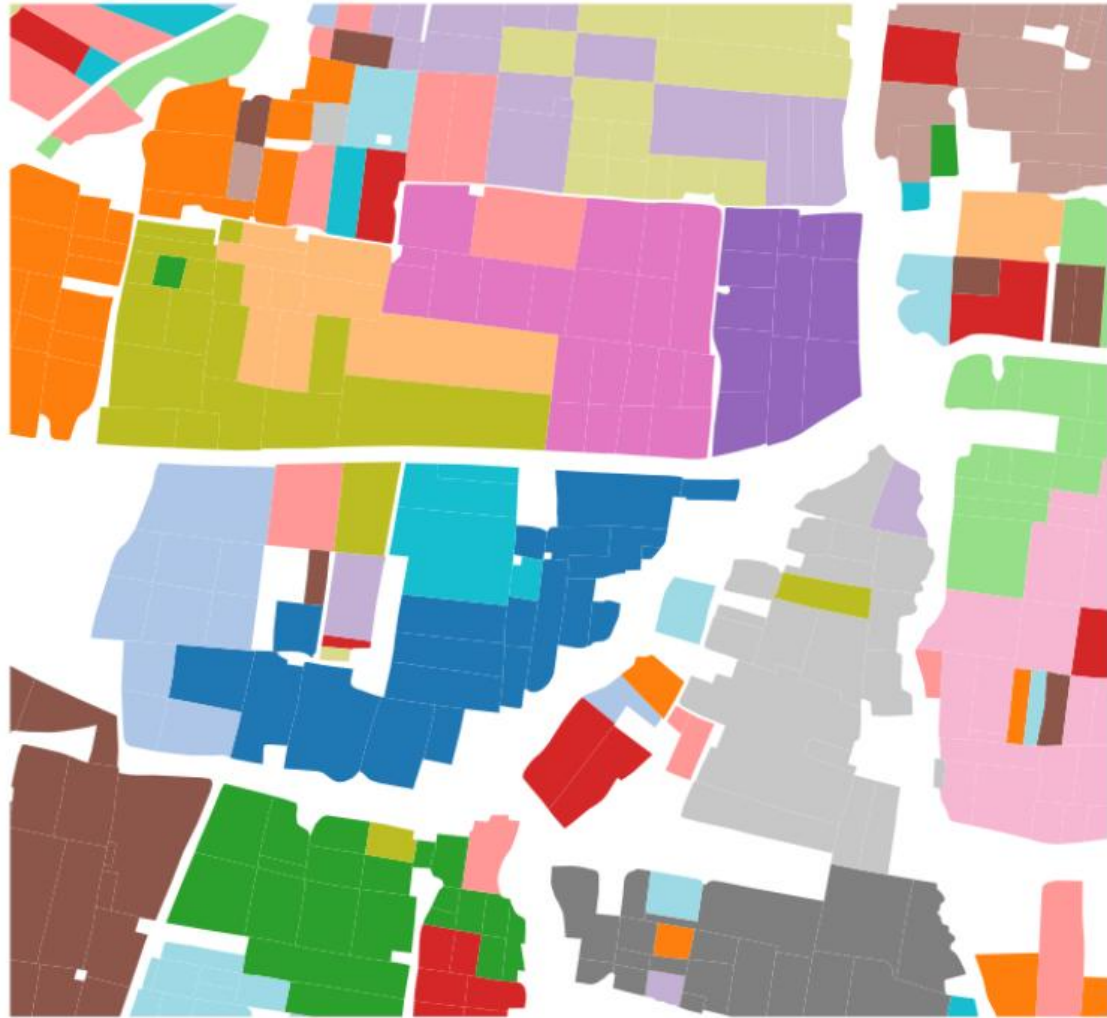
Authorized Claim Range: ₹4,00,000 - ₹8,00,000

Show Anomalies Only [No]

Verified	Verified	Anomaly Detected (1)
RAMESH KUMAR SHARMA 81 yrs, Male New Delhi 17/01/2025 Not specified	GANGA BHADUR GURUNG 63 yrs, Male Syangja District 15/01/2025 Not specified	LAKSHMI CHARAN PATNAIK 75 yrs, Male KABISURYANAGAR 08/01/2025 Not specified
Intimation ID: 35489082 Card ID: DL2000003791954	Intimation ID: 35472639 Card ID: NE000007549559	Intimation ID: 35351667 Card ID: 000006429471

Automated Land Consolidation (General-purpose)

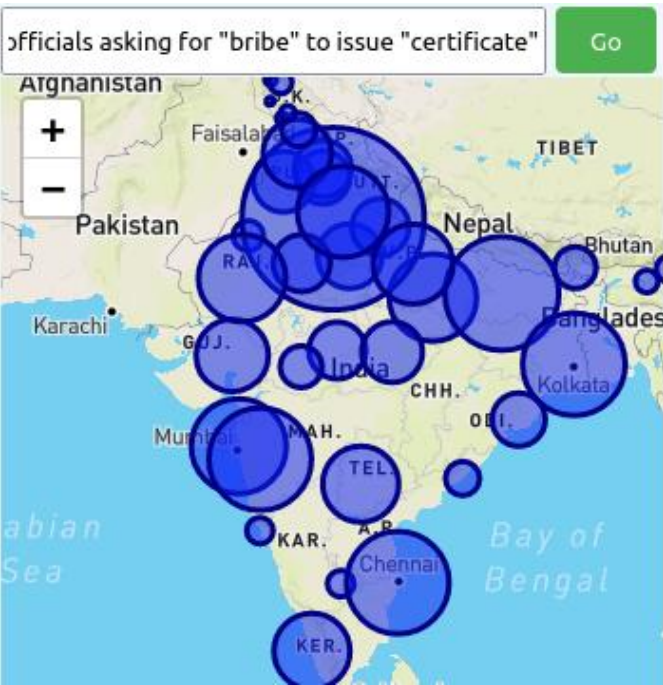
Land **Consolidation** using breadth-first search based on administrative criteria



Root-cause analysis (General-purpose)

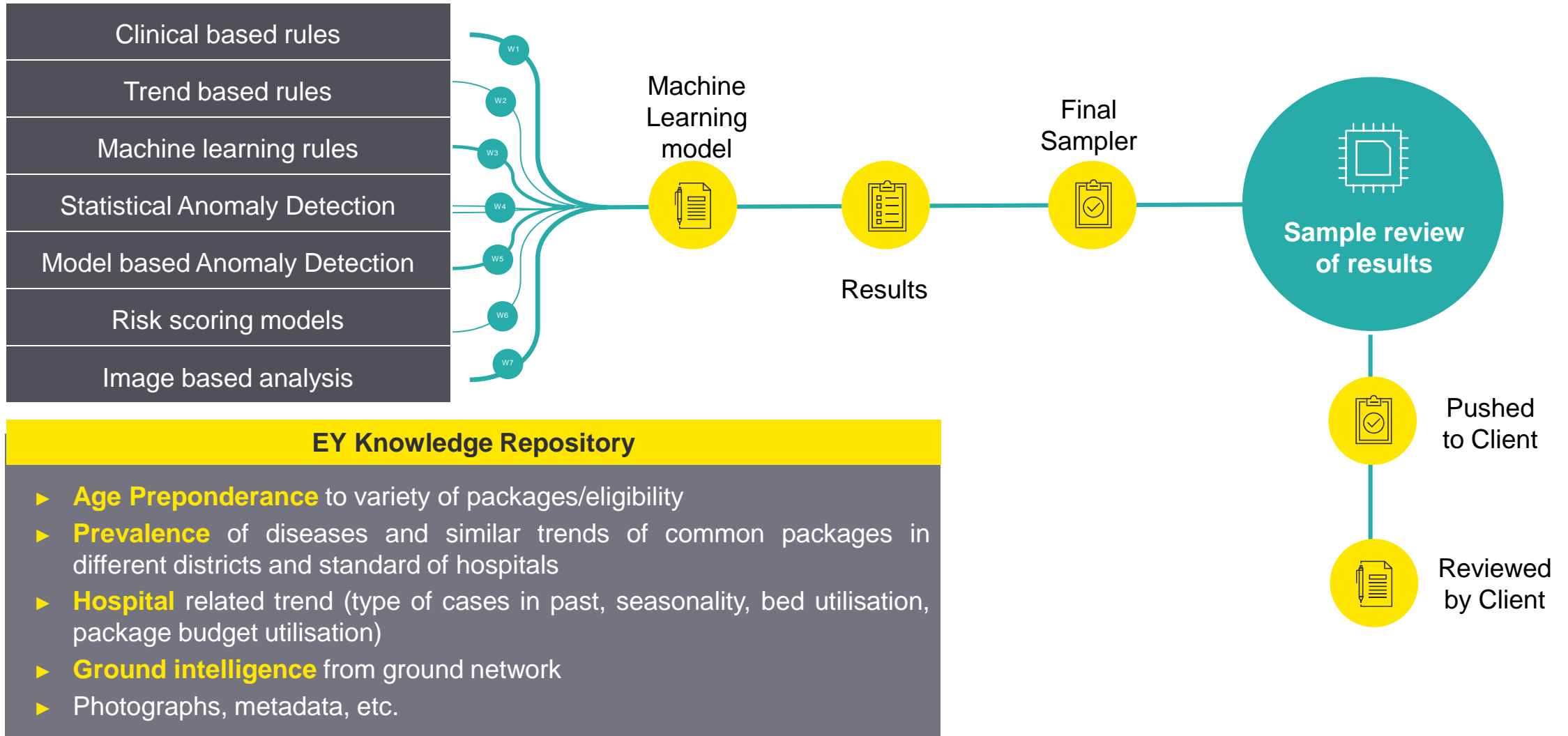


- Automated **detection of topics** in grievance streams
 - Hierarchical labeling of topics using bags of words



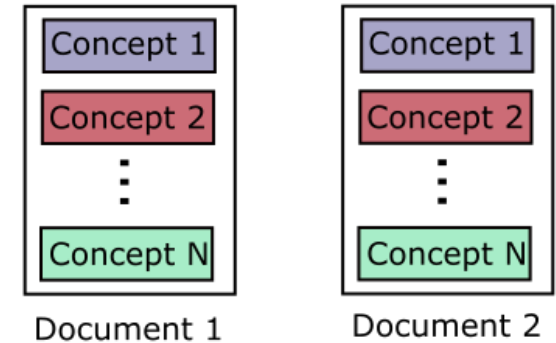
NHA: Health insurance fraud detection (General-purpose)

EY solution has more than 50 rules which are broadly bifurcated in following categories:

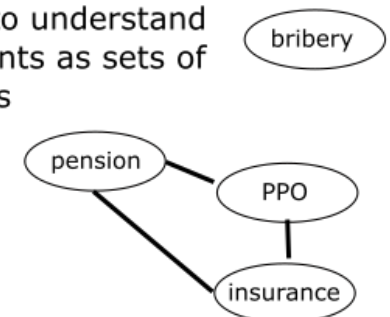


Cybersecurity assessments: AI potential

- In the last five years, LLMs have shown great promise
- Reading documents and extracting information, answering questions based on documents (RAG), etc.
- Reduces tedium on people
- Allows for objectivity especially when there is ambiguity
- Reduces effort, more frequency



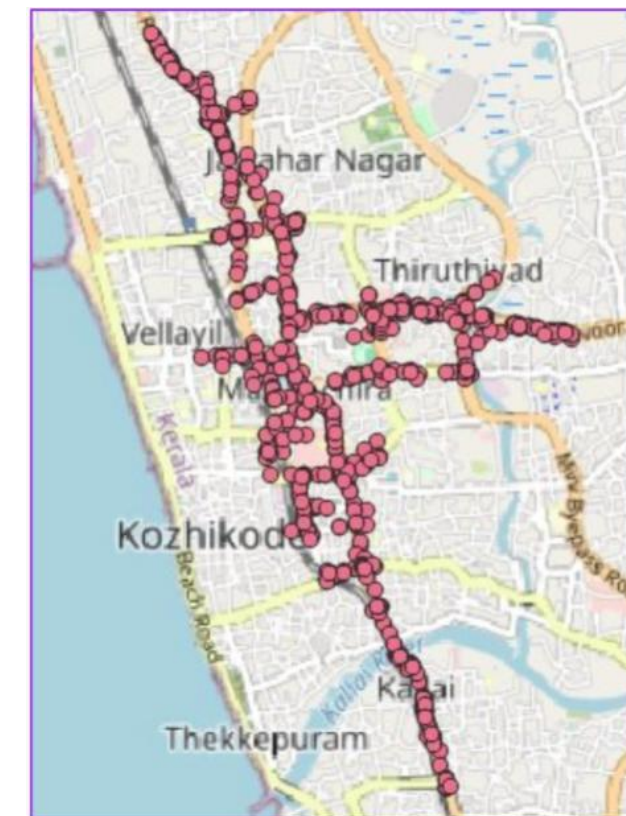
Use AI to understand documents as sets of concepts





Accident Zone Identification System

- AI identifies accident-prone 'black spots' on national highways
- Fuses road geometry, traffic, weather and historical crash data
- GIS visualization for highway planners and engineers
- Directly prevents deaths through pre-emptive road engineering for 1.4 lakh km
- MoU signed with Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) — national-level deployment



High-density cluster in Kozhikode

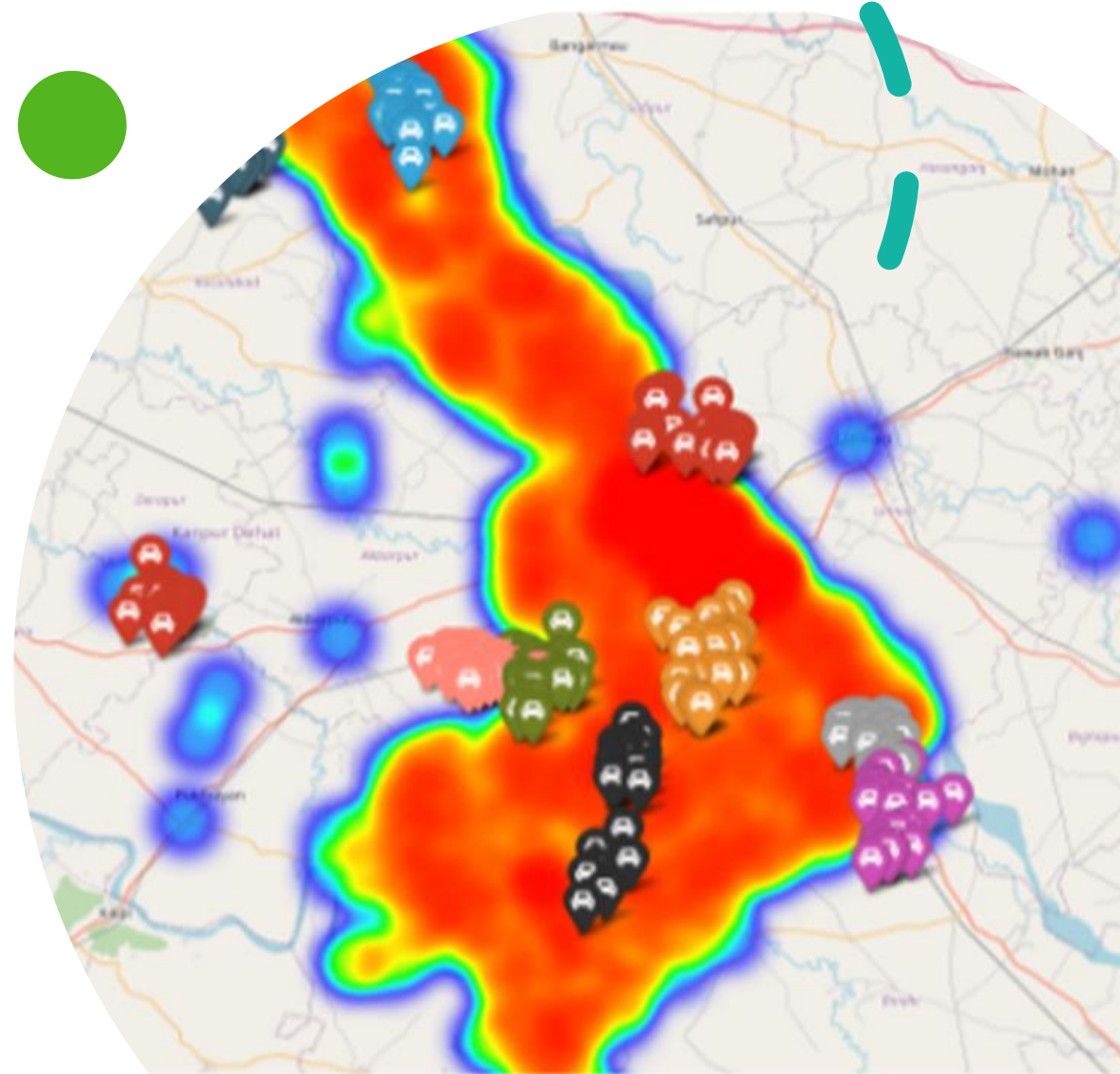
AI for acting



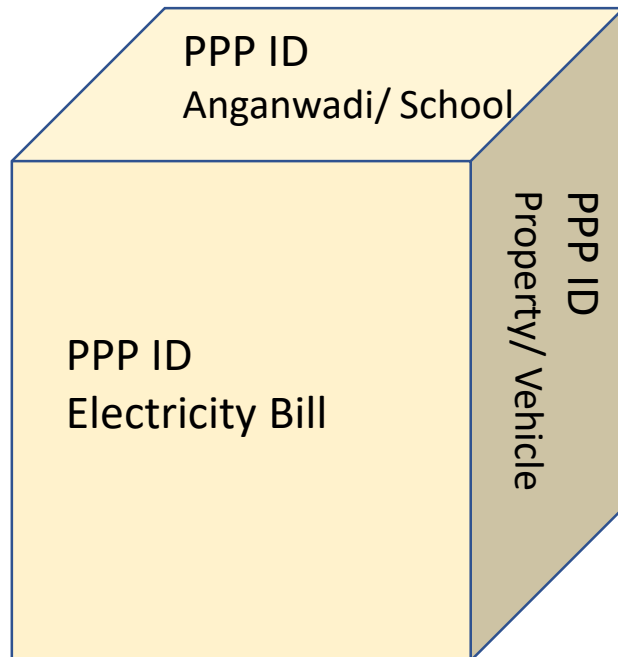


Predictive patrolling

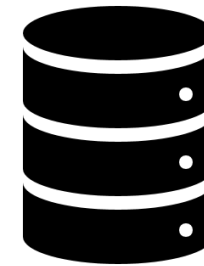
- UP112 has about 700 patrol vehicles that collectively serve a population of about 220 million people
 - UP112 currently receives 50000 calls each day, of which about 10% result in an emergency response
- Average first response times – 20 minutes
 - Average distance driven per patrol vehicle per day – 70 kms
- A **predicting patrolling** system reduces response times by 20% and fuel consumption by 25%
 - Similar idea being used in *allocating* the field engineers in a Bengaluru Internet Provider!



Income assessment



HRMS (Salary labels)



- Use regression modelling to **predict income** levels of households
- **Validate** against held out sample from HRMS, labor, contracts
- **Out-of-sample** validation with **survey** using 2200 respondents from all districts

Home



Fresh

12,321

+55% than last week



Normal

24,231

+55% than last week



Spam

2,300

+3% than last month



Repeat

3,462

-2% than yesterday



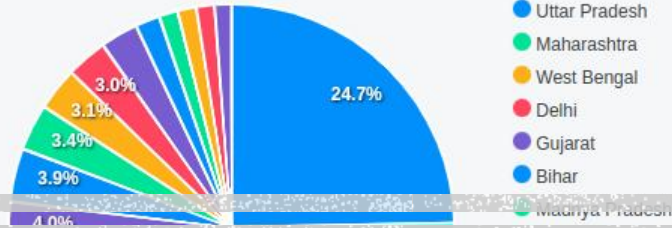
+5% than yesterday

Select Ministry
ALL

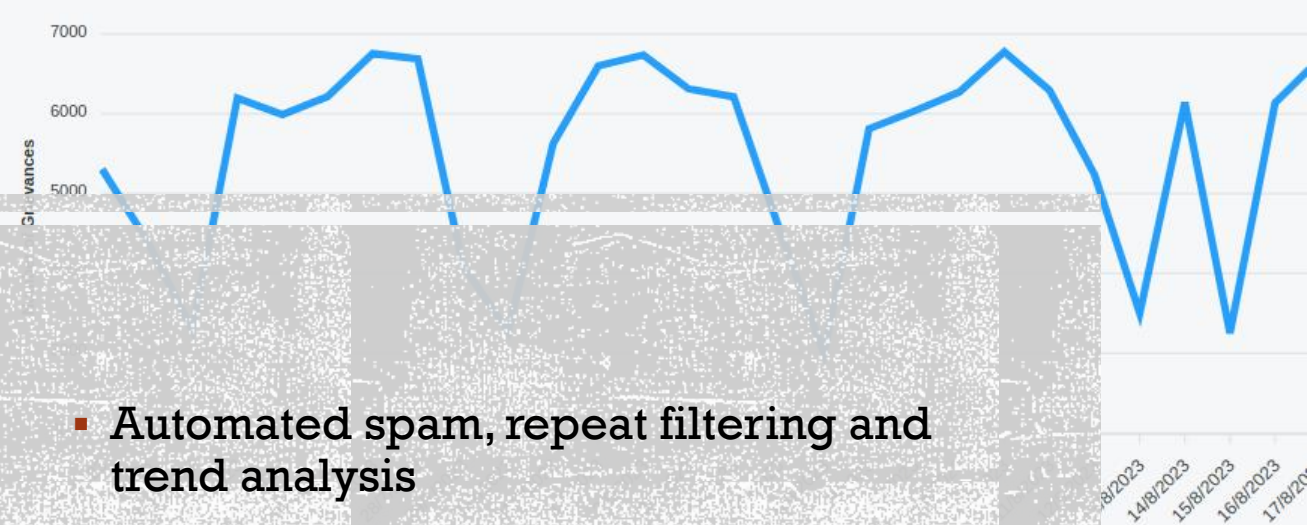
From
21/07/2023

To
21/08/2023

Top 20-States / UT's Grievances



Daily Grievances



IGMS 2.0

- Automated spam, repeat filtering and trend analysis





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CSE & WSAIS & CDIS & CDIS Pvt Ltd & AIRAWAT CoE
IIT Kanpur

<https://iitk.ac.in/cdis/>