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# Ray - Scalability from a Laptop to a Cluster

Dean Wampler - EuroPython 2020

[dean@anyscale.com](mailto:dean@anyscale.com)

[@deanwampler](https://twitter.com/deanwampler)

[ray.io](https://ray.io)

[anyscale.com](https://anyscale.com)

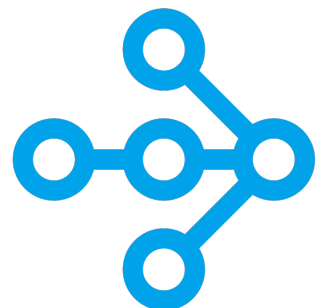


<https://anyscale.com/events>



# What We'll Talk About:

- Ray demo
  - We'll get into the mechanics of using the Ray API
- Why Ray Is Needed
- ML/AI Ray Libraries
- Ray for Microservices
- Adopting Ray and the Ray community





# Demo

- Adapted from forthcoming tutorials:
  - [github.com/anyscale/academy](https://github.com/anyscale/academy)
- Contact Dean for details:
  - [dean@anyscale.com](mailto:dean@anyscale.com)



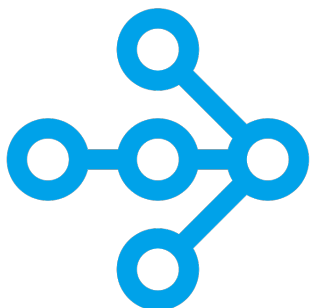
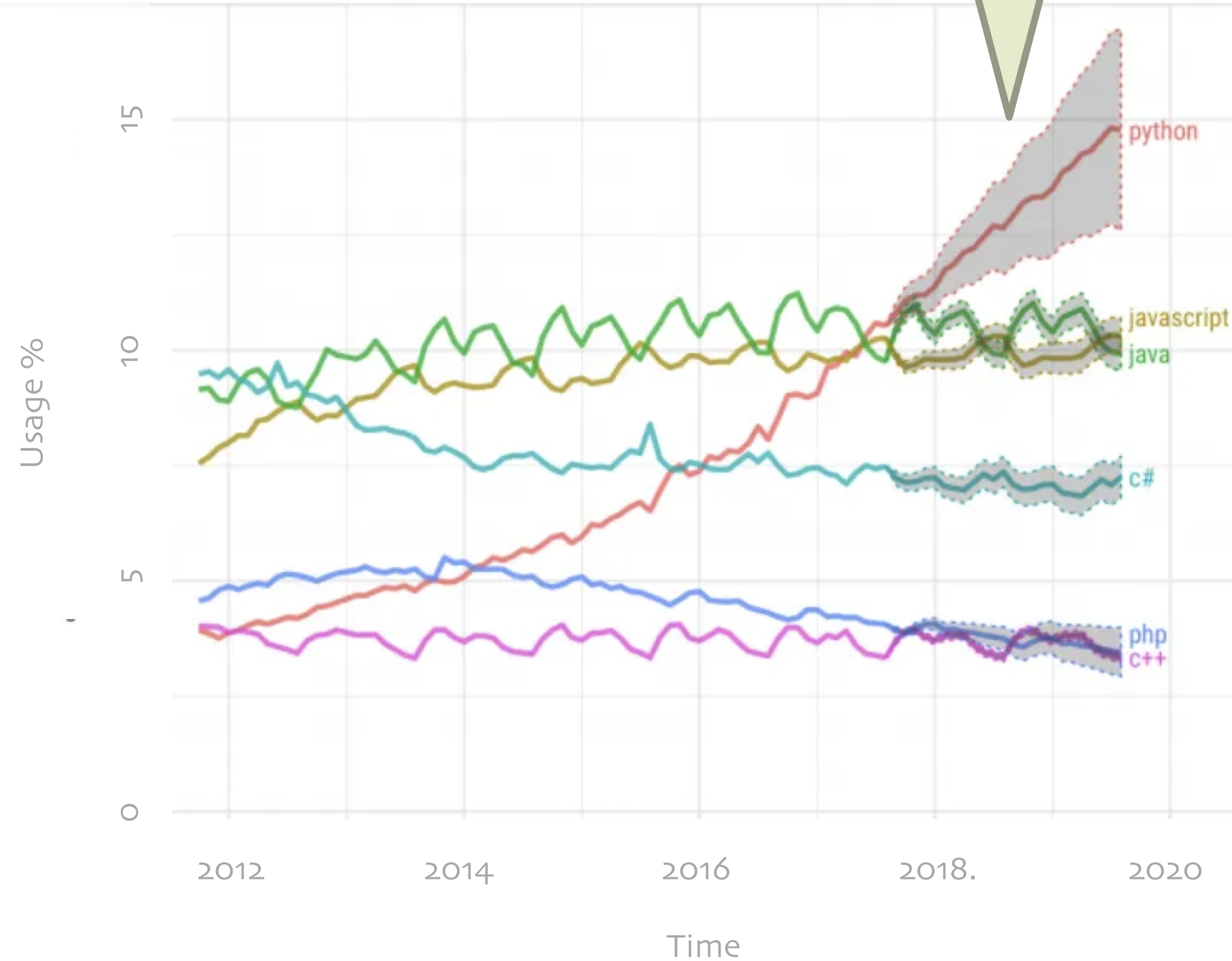
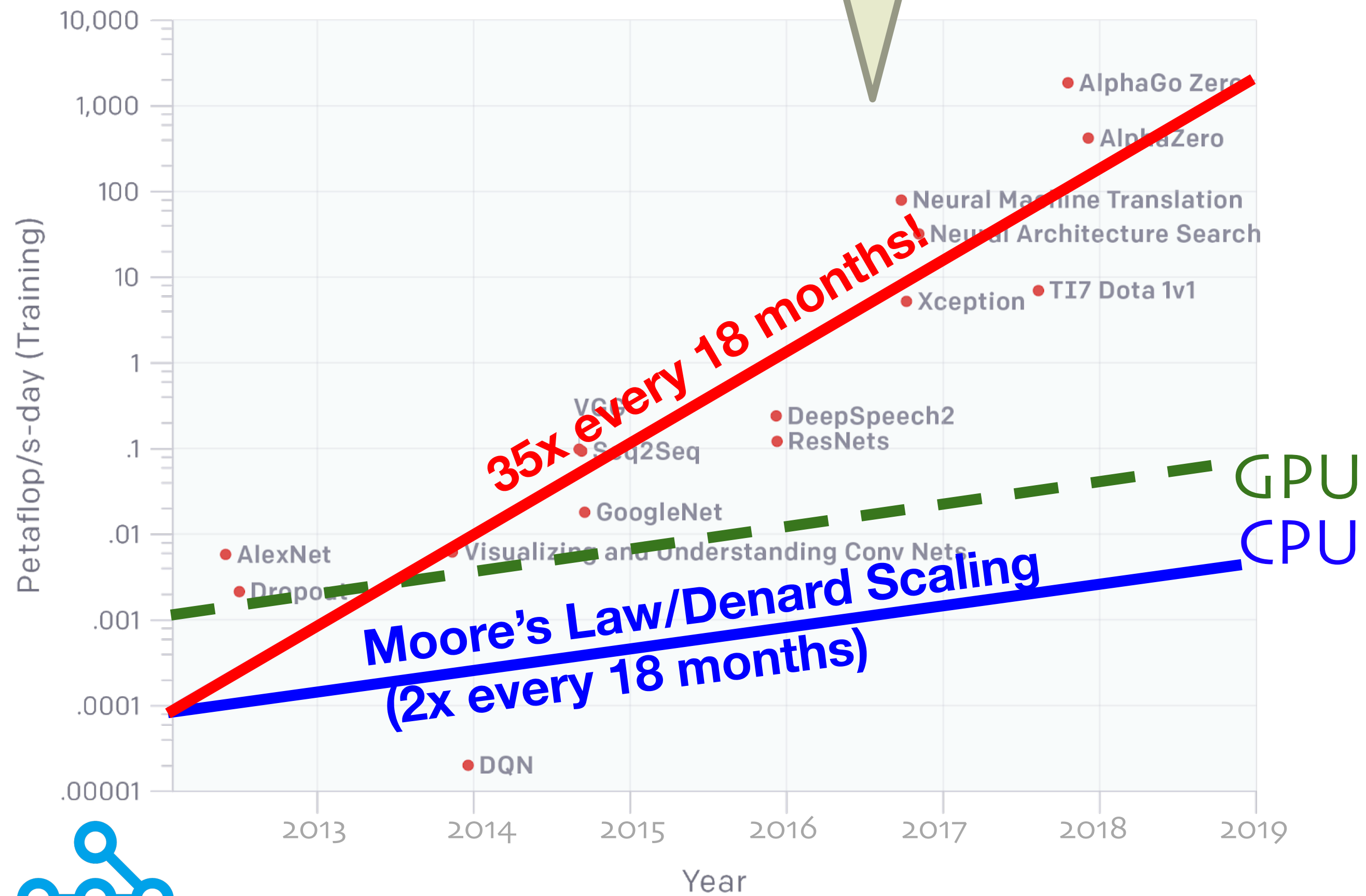
# Why Ray?

# Two Major Trends

Model sizes and therefore compute requirements outstripping Moore's Law

Hence, there is a pressing need for robust, easy to use solutions for distributed Python

Python growth driven by ML/AI and other data science workloads



<https://openai.com/blog/ai-and-compute/>

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# The ML Landscape Today

**All** require distributed implementations to scale

Featurization



Streaming



Hyperparam  
Tuning



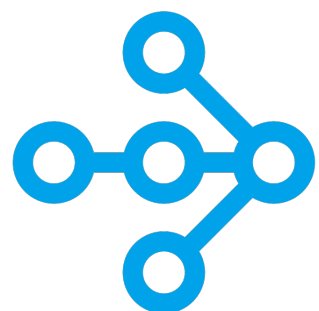
Training



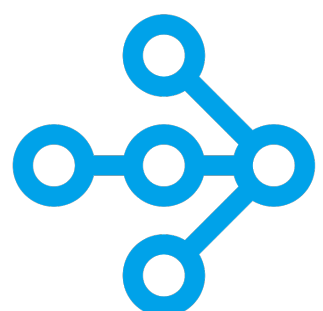
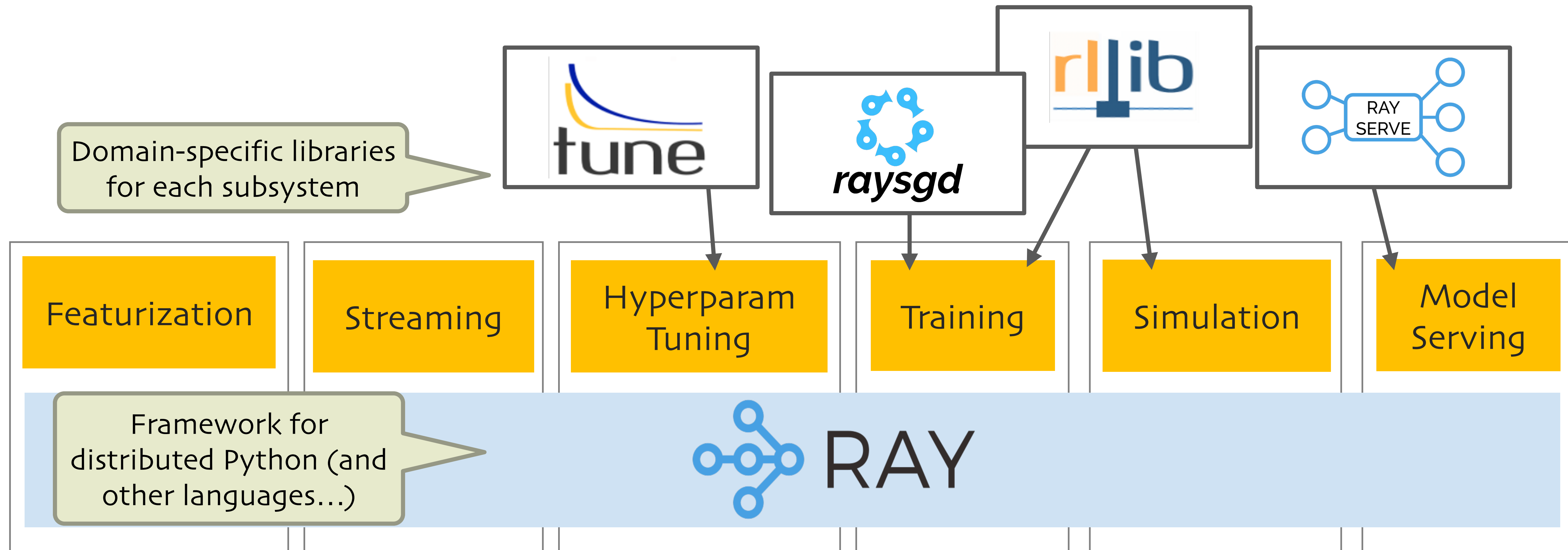
Simulation



Model  
Serving



# The Ray Vision: Sharing a Common Framework



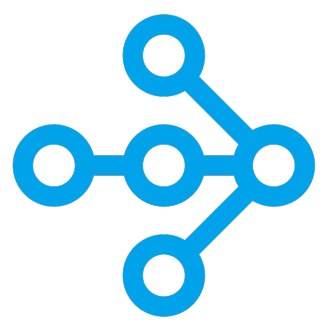
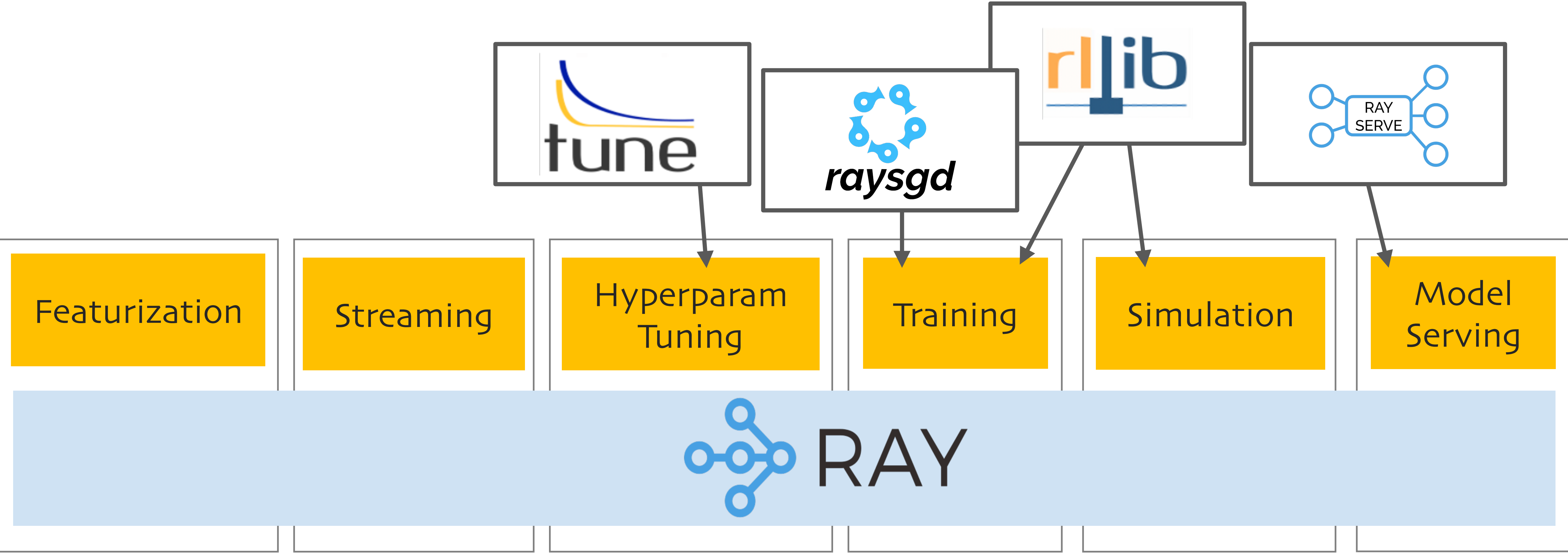
More libraries coming soon



# Machine Learning with Ray-based Libraries



# Ray Libraries



# Reinforcement Learning - Ray RLlib



Featurization

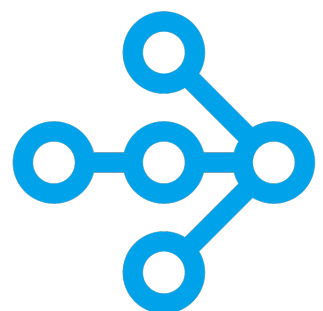
Streaming

Hyperparam  
Tuning

Training

Simulation

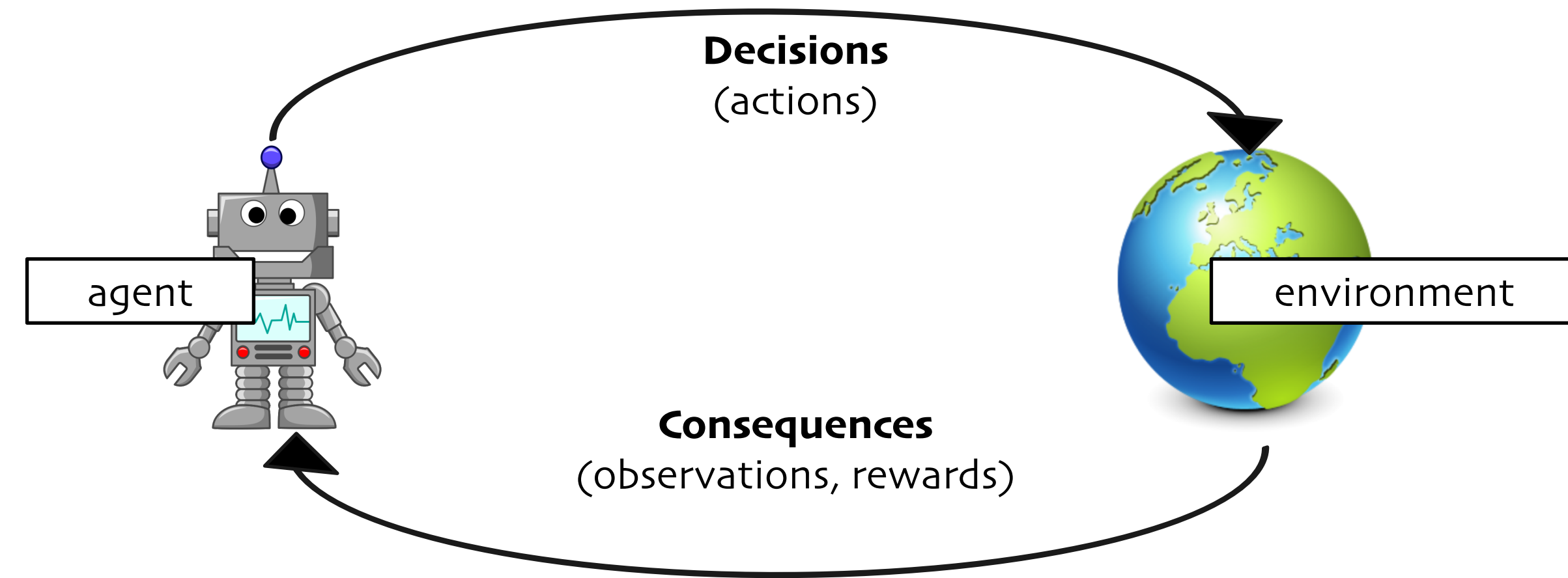
Model  
Serving



[rllib.io](https://rllib.io)

@deanwampler

# Reinforcement Learning



Games

Robotics,  
Autonomous  
Vehicles

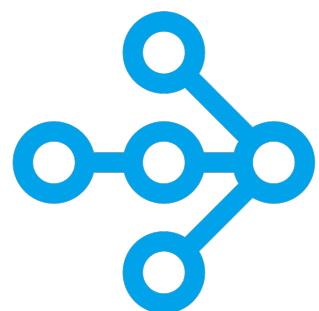
Industrial  
Processes

System  
Optimization

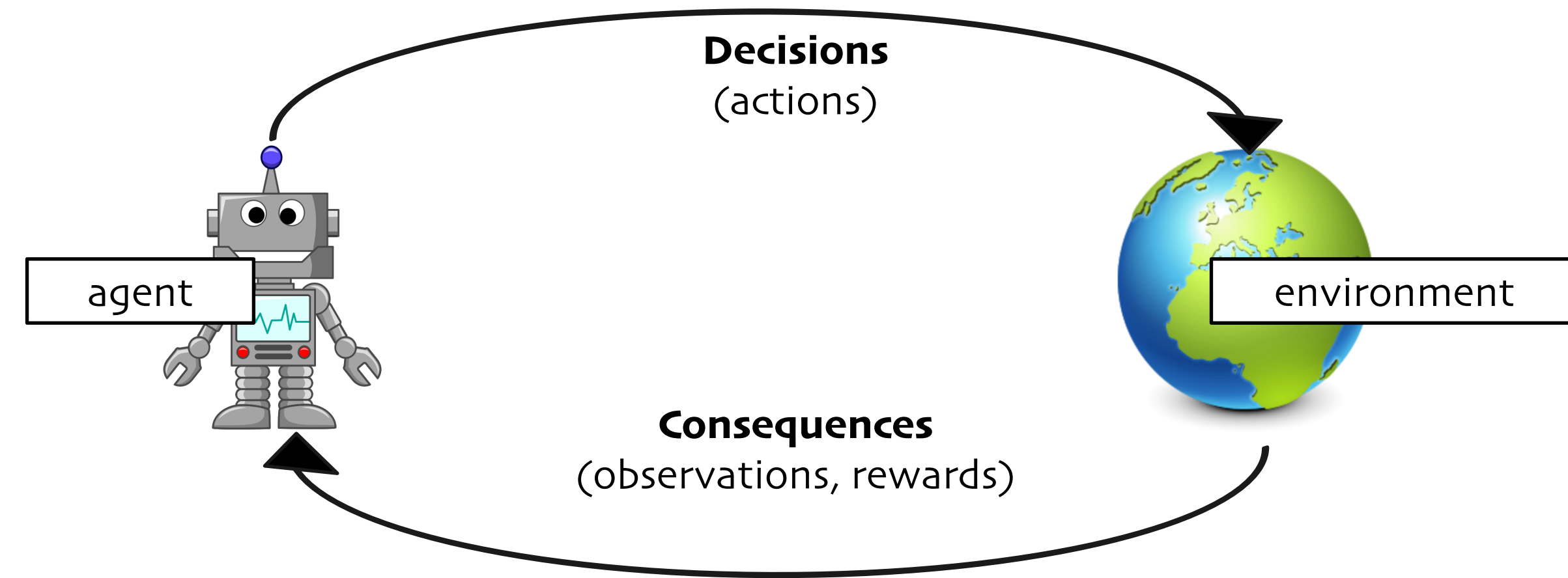
Advertising,  
Recommendations

Finance

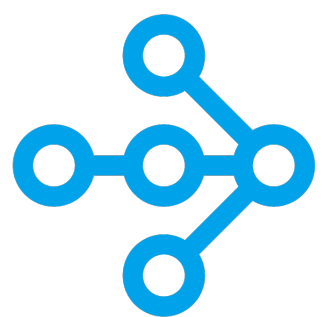
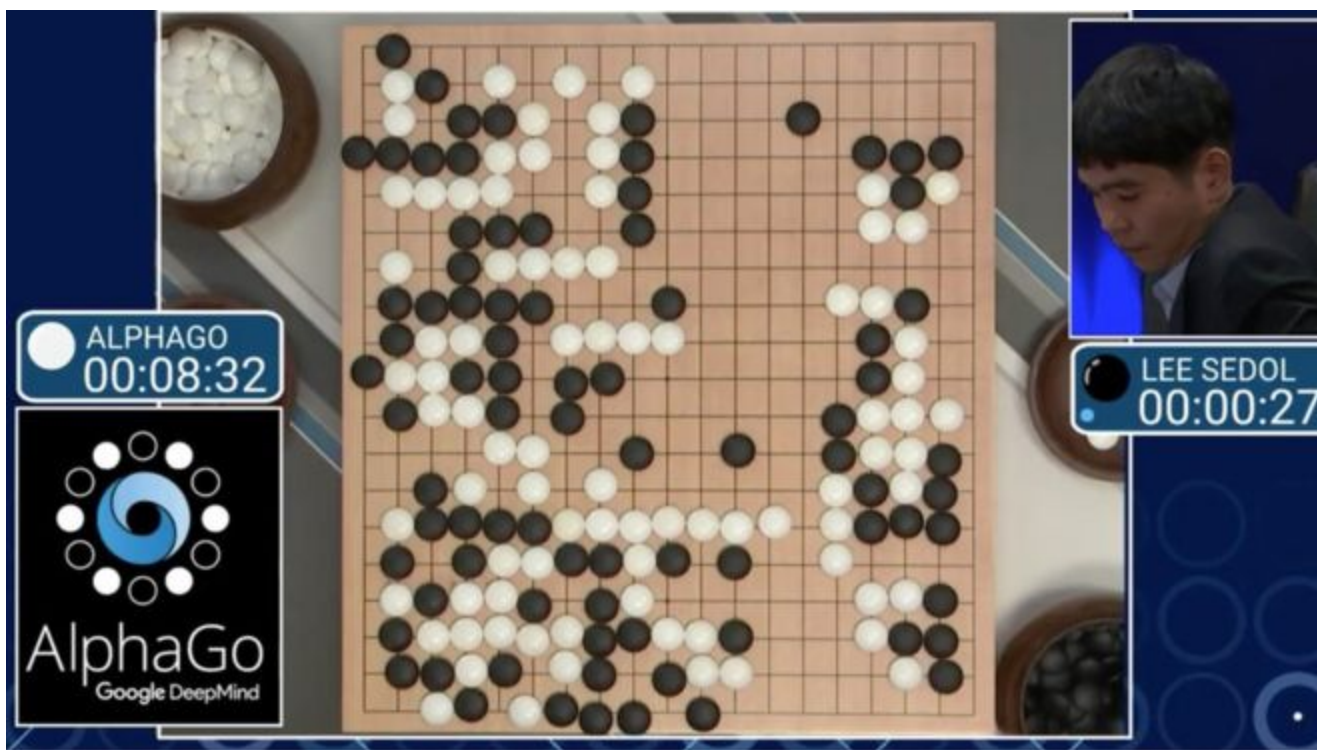
RL applications



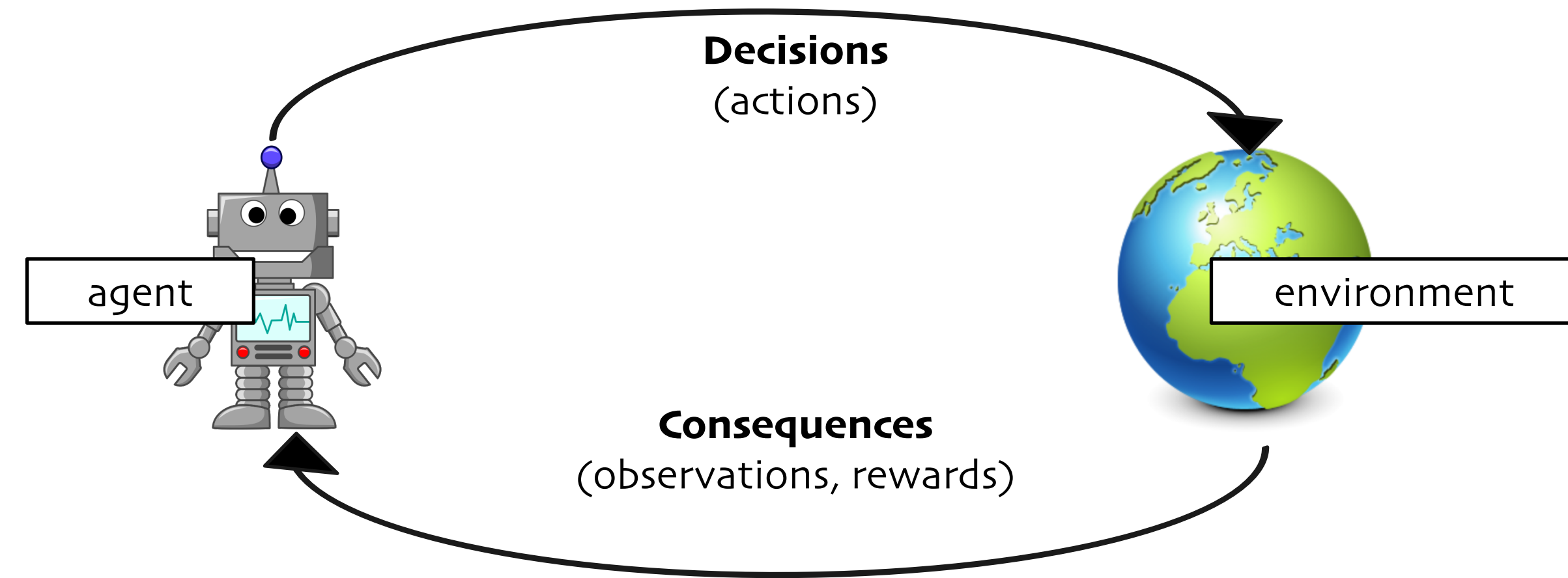
# Reinforcement Learning



- Games
- Robotics, Autonomous Vehicles
- Industrial Processes
- System Optimization
- Advertising, Recommendations
- Finance
- RL applications



# Reinforcement Learning



Games

Robotics,  
Autonomous  
Vehicles

Industrial  
Processes

System  
Optimization

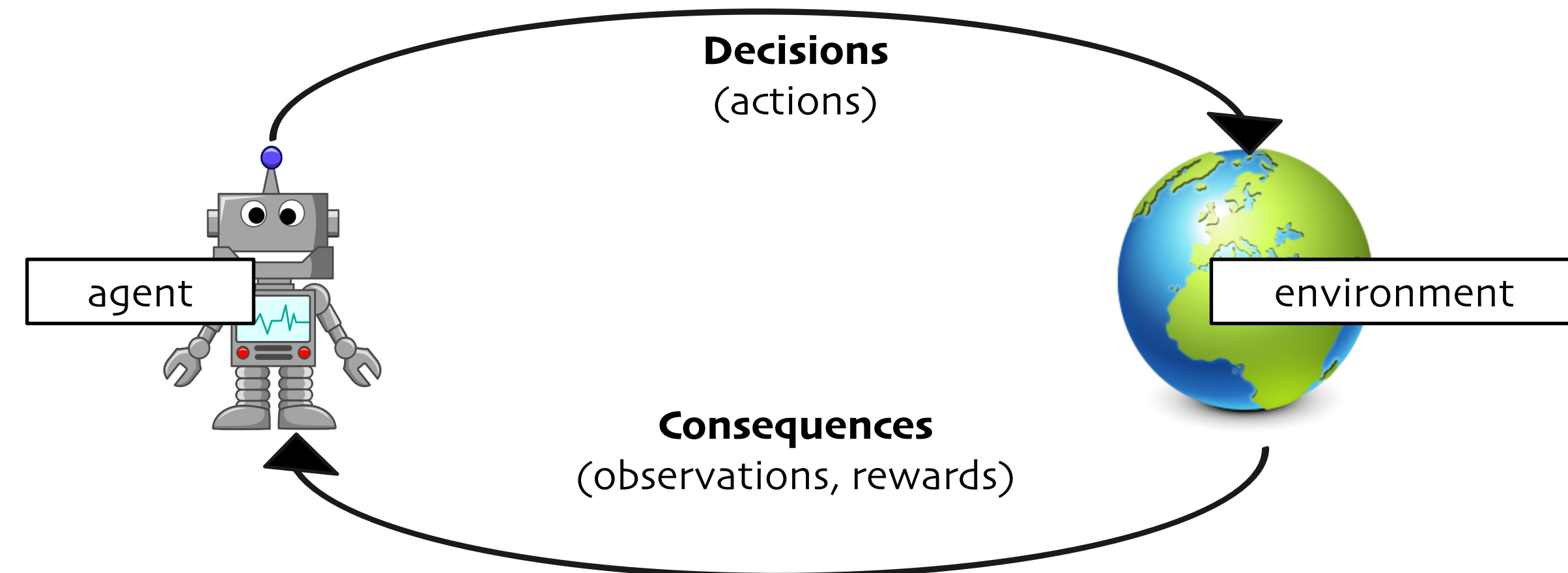
Advertising,  
Recommendations

Finance

RL applications



# Reinforcement Learning



Games

Robotics,  
Autonomous  
Vehicles

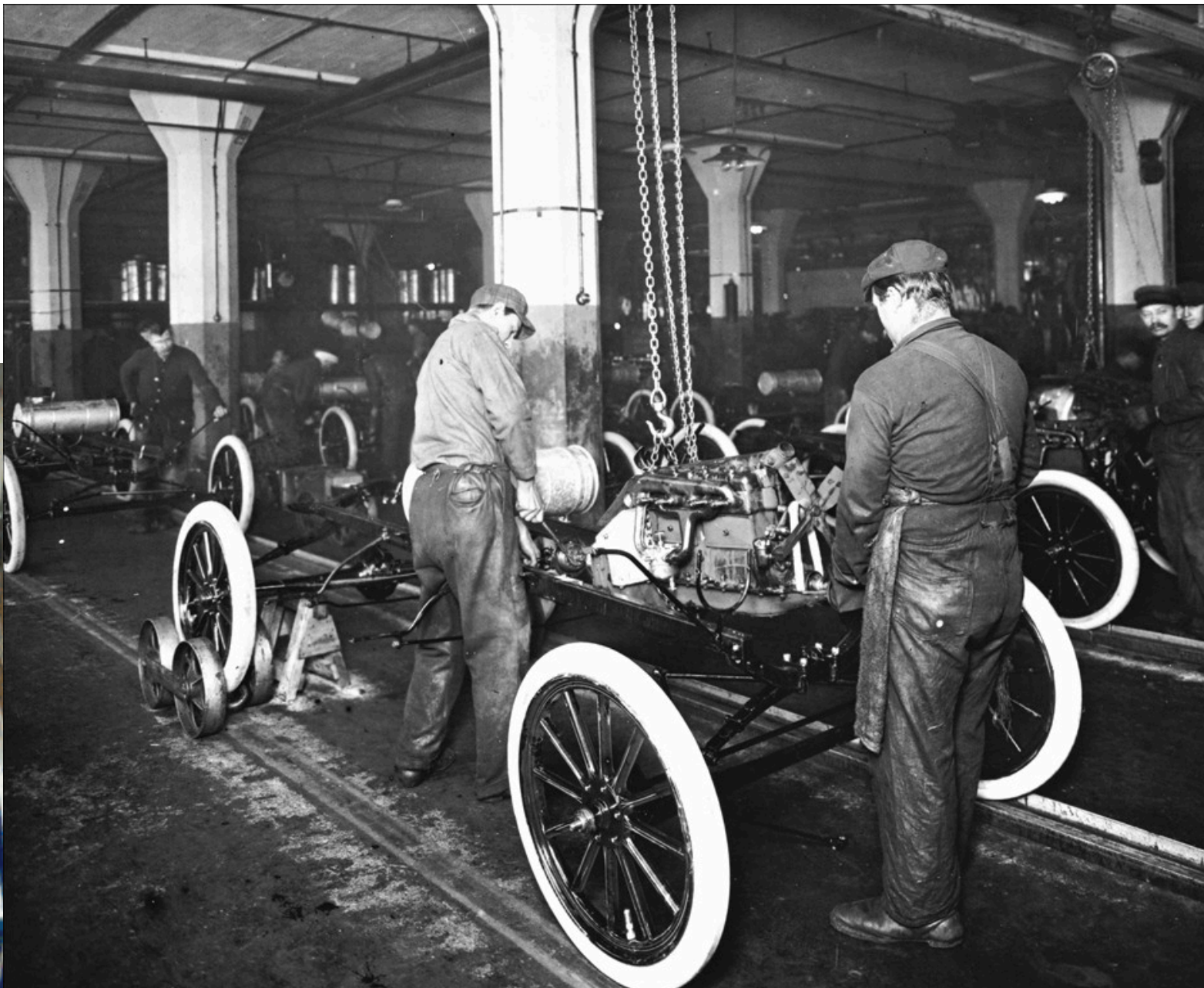
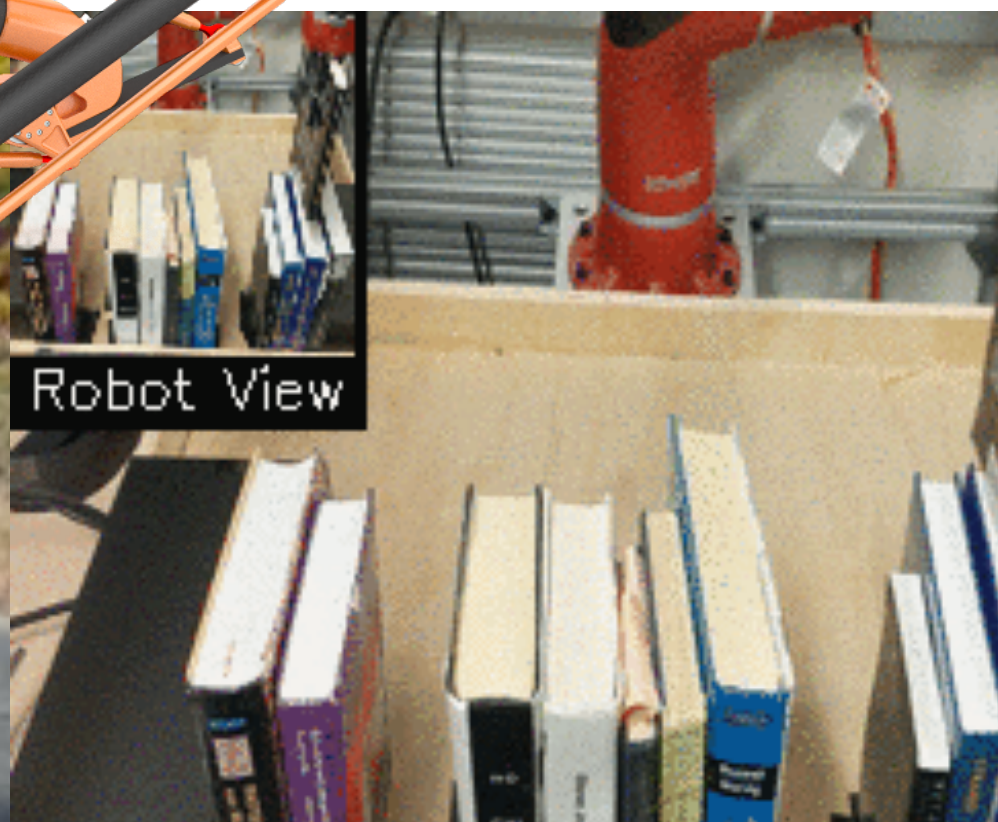
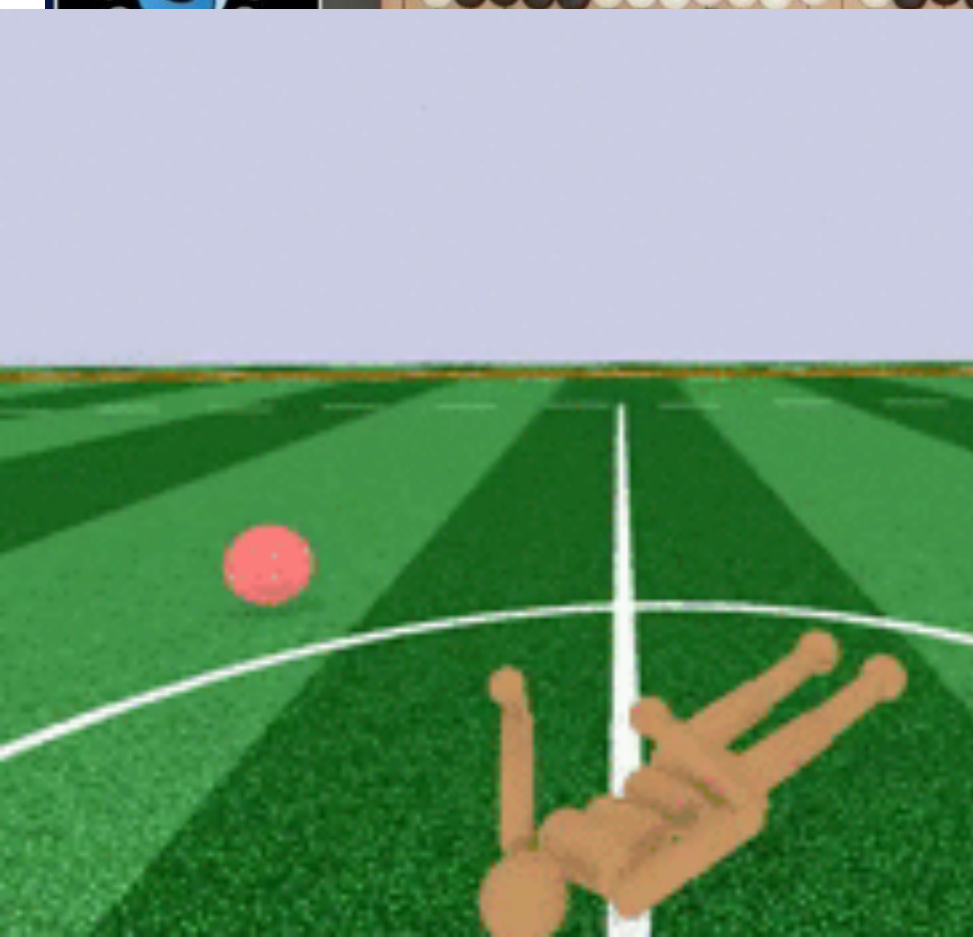
Industrial  
Processes

System  
Optimization

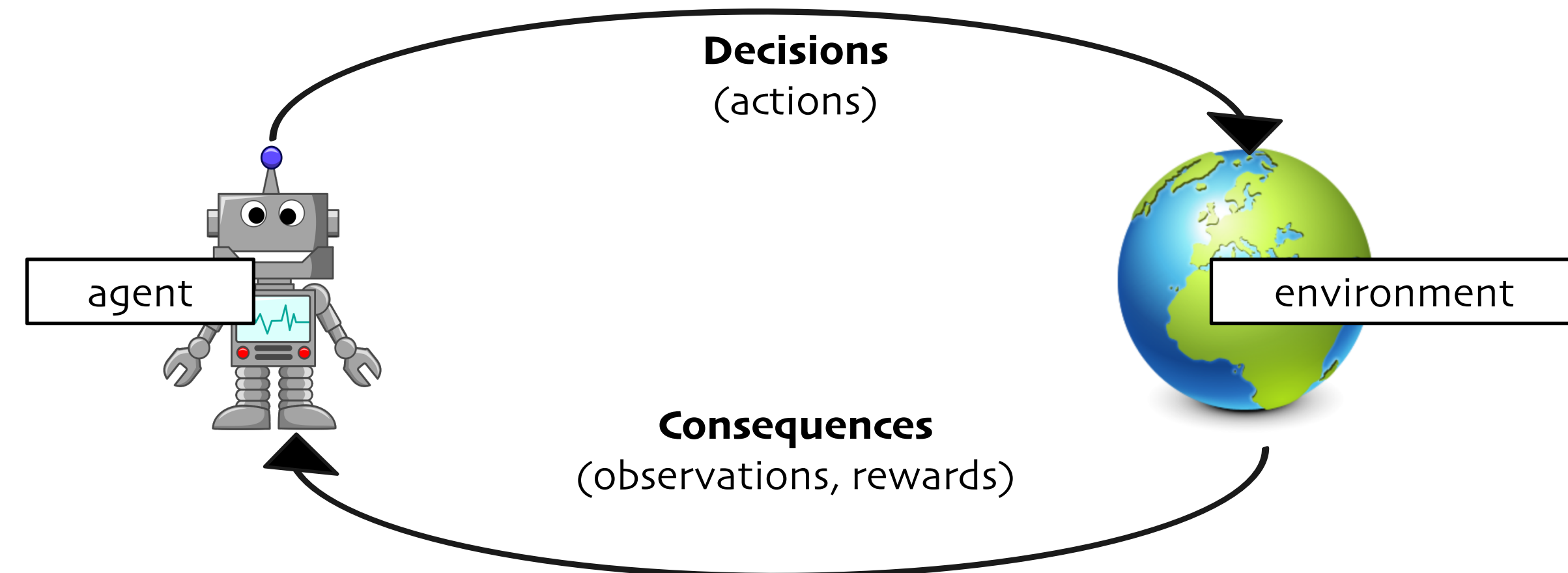
Advertising,  
Recommendations

Finance

RL applications



# Reinforcement Learning



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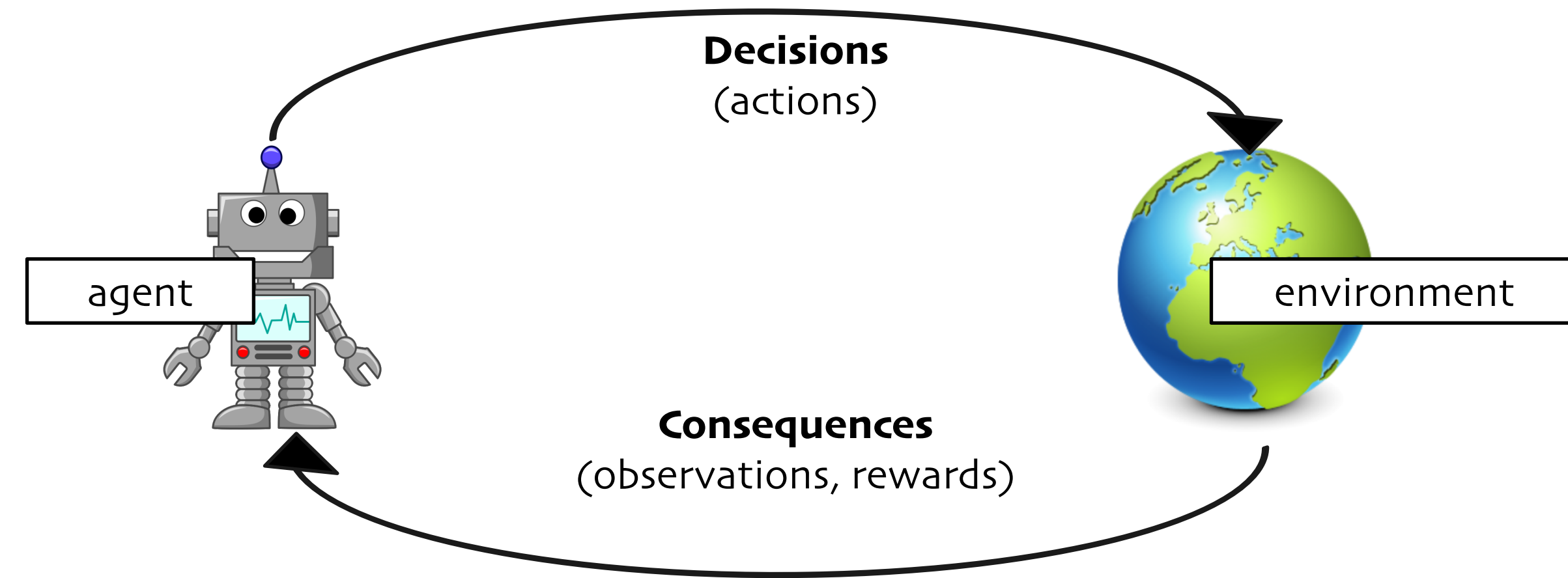
Advertising,  
Recommendations

Finance

RL applications



# Reinforcement Learning



Games

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Autonomous  
Vehicles

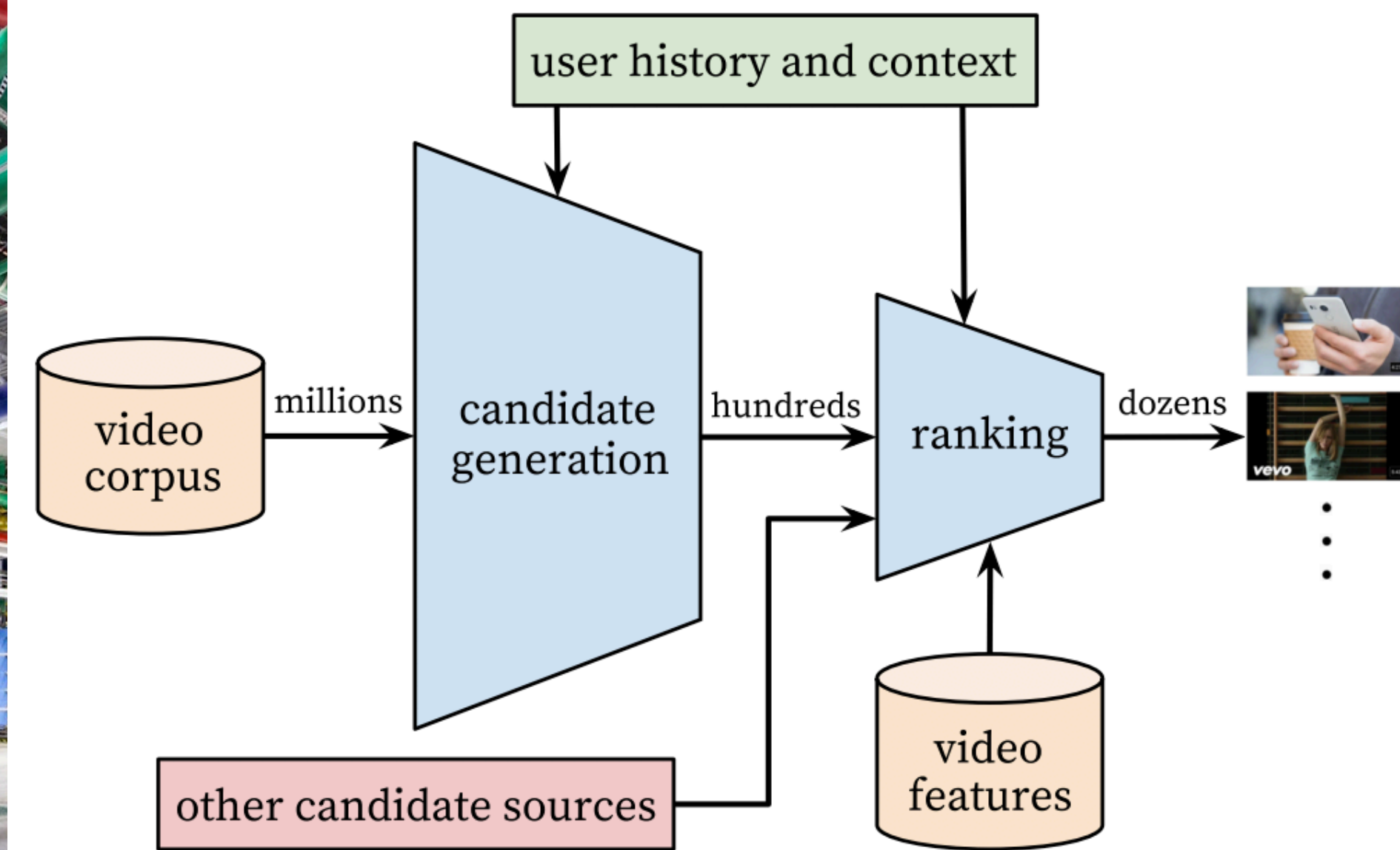
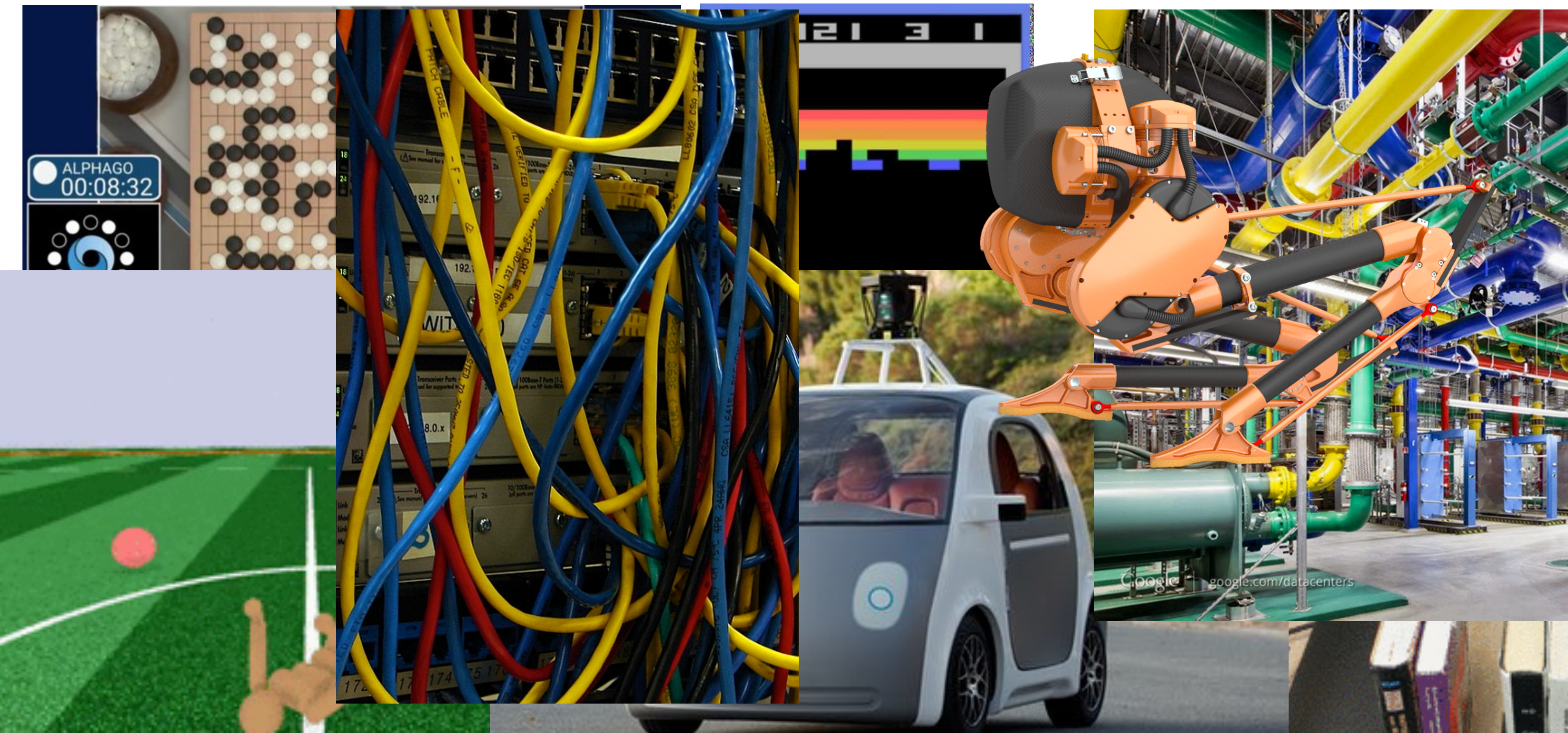
Industrial  
Processes

System  
Optimization

Advertising,  
Recommendations

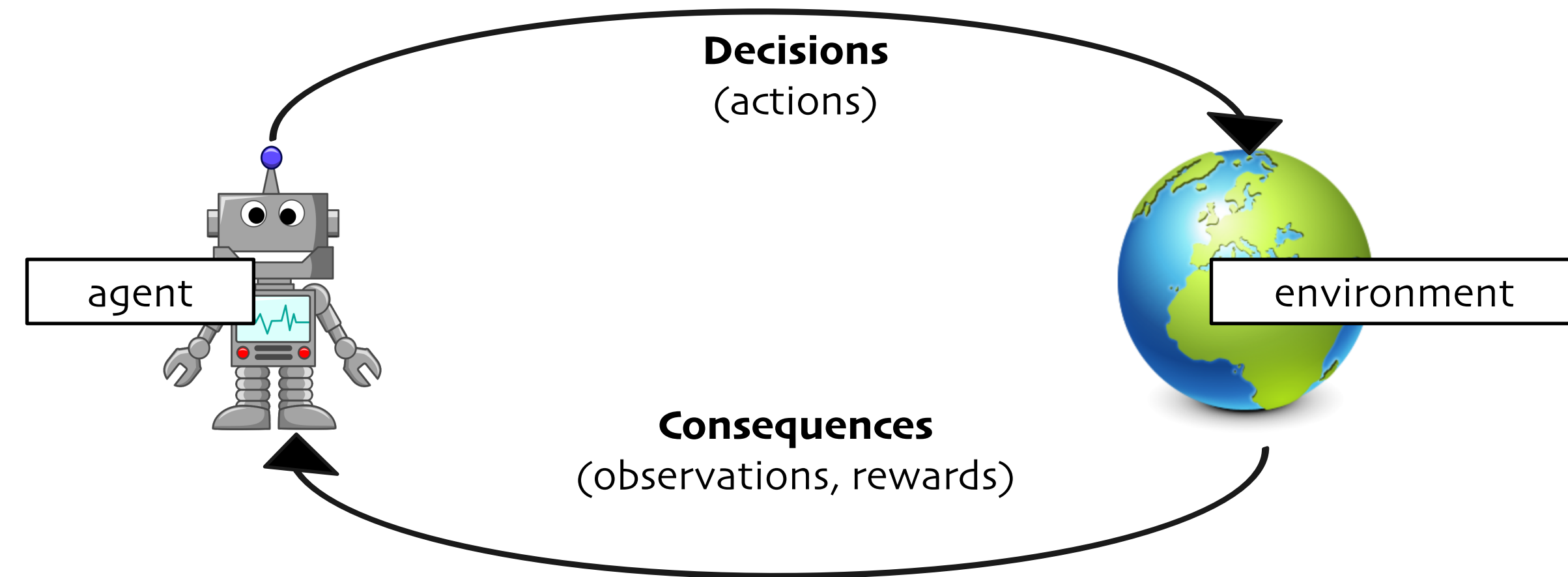
Finance

RL applications





# Reinforcement Learning



Games

Robotics,  
Autonomous  
Vehicles

Industrial  
Processes

System  
Optimization

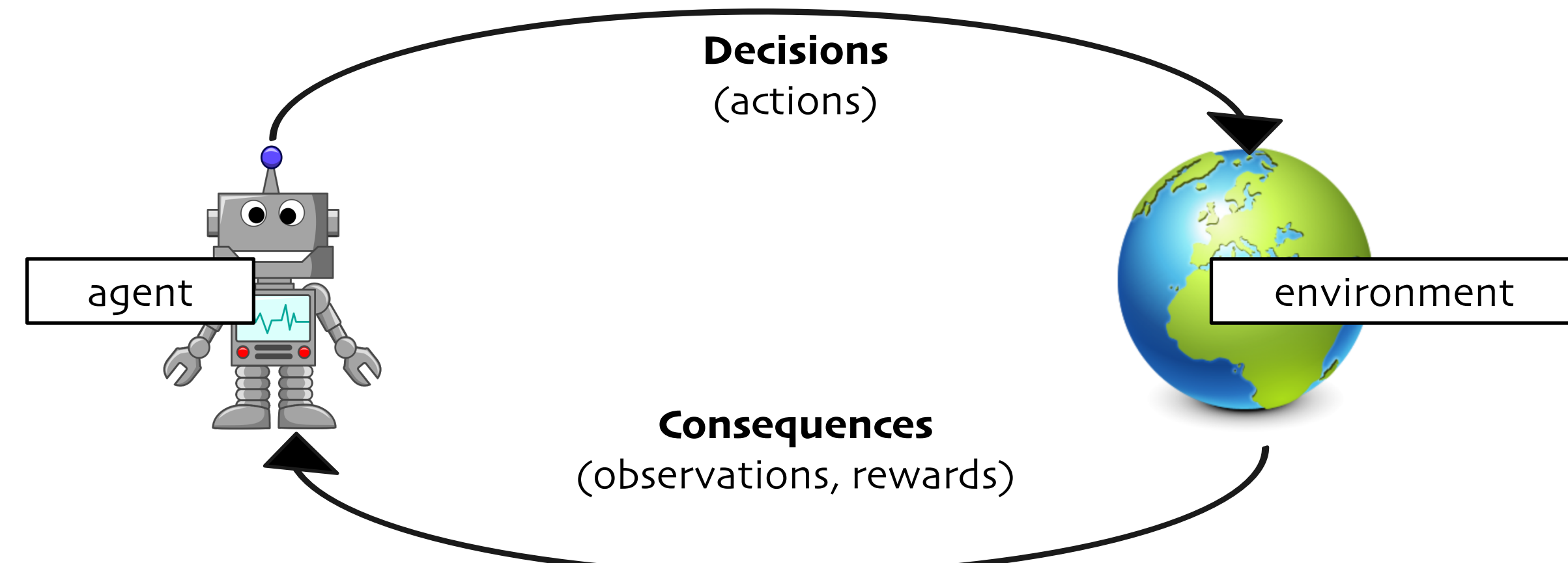
Advertising,  
Recommendations

Finance

RL applications

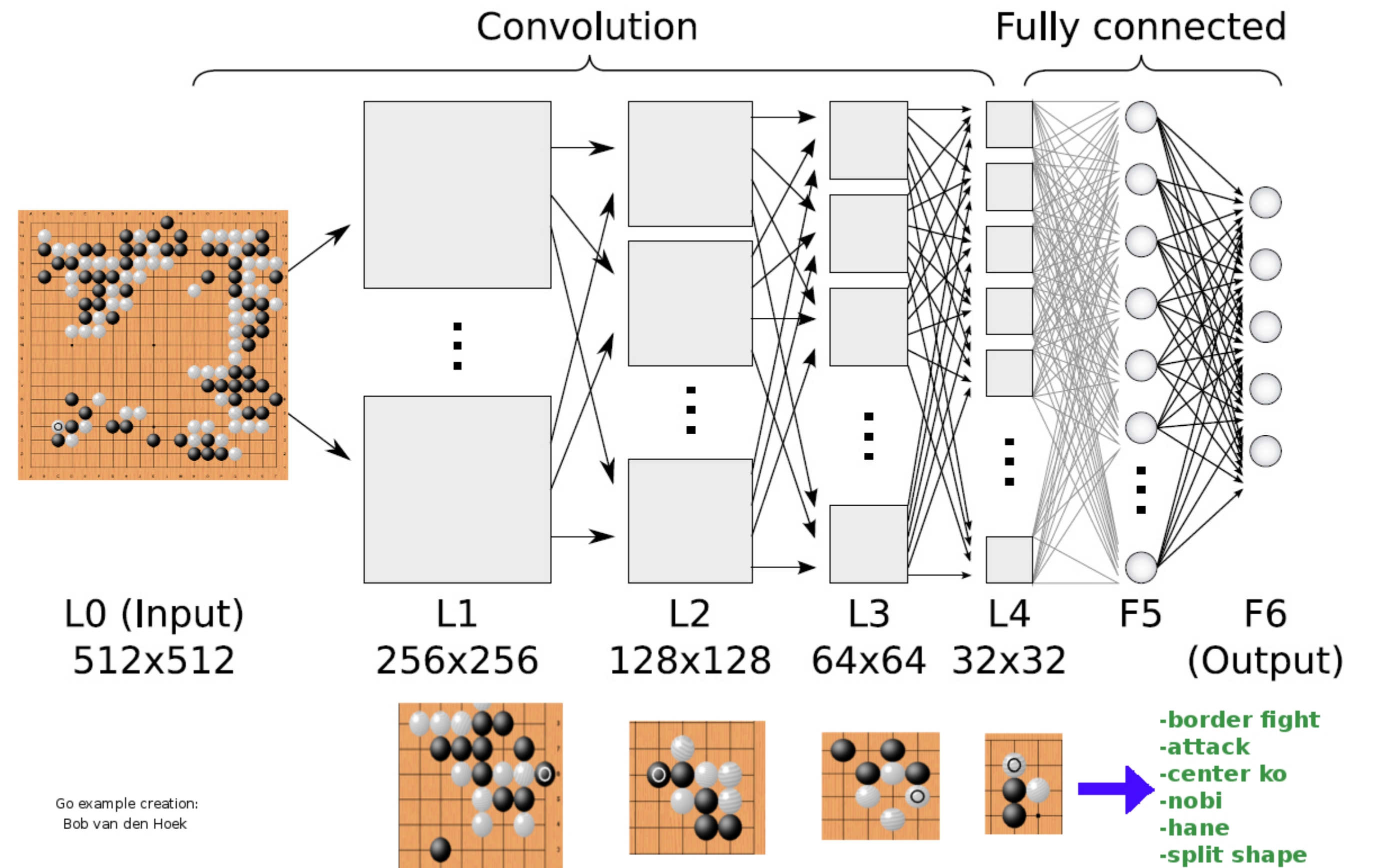


# Go as a Reinforcement Learning Problem

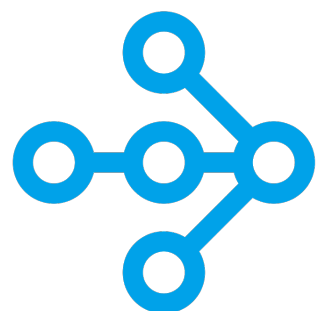


## AlphaGo (Silver et al. 2016)

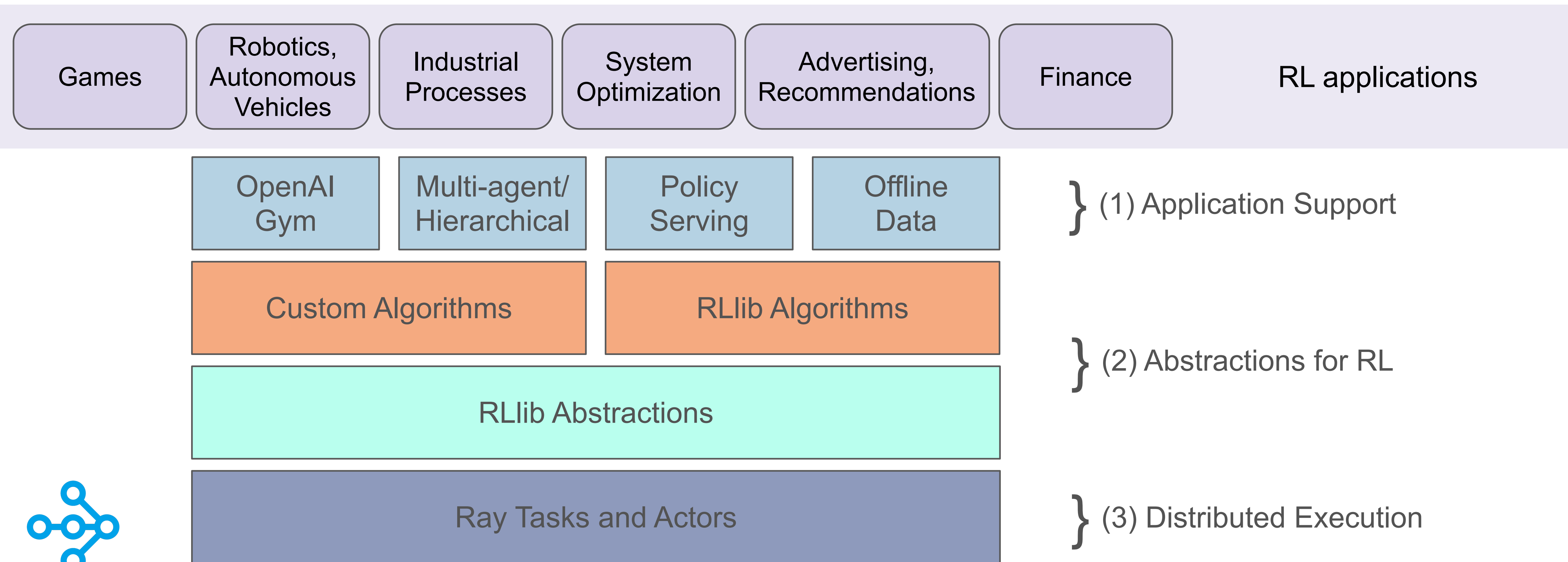
- **Observations:**
  - board state
- **Actions:**
  - where to place the stones
- **Rewards:**
  - 1 if win
  - 0 otherwise



Go example creation:  
Bob van den Hoek



# RLlib: A Scalable, Unified Library for RL



# Amazon SageMaker RL

Reinforcement learning for every developer and data scientist



## Amazon SageMaker RL

### End-to-end examples for classic RL and real-world RL applications

Robotics

Industrial Control

HVAC

Autonomous Vehicles

Operations

Finance

Games

NLP

### RL Environments to model real-world problems

#### AWS Simulation Environments

Amazon Sumerian

AWS RoboMaker

#### Open Source Environments

EnergyPlus

RoboSchool

PyBullet

...

#### Custom Environments

Bring Your Own

#### Commercial simulators

MATLAB & Simulink

### Open AI Gym

### RL Toolkits that provide RL agent algorithm implementations

#### RL-Coach

DQN

PPO

HER

Rainbow

...

#### RL-Ray RLLib

APEX

ES

IMPALA

A3C

...

#### Open AI Baselines

TRPO

GAIL

...

...

### SageMaker Deep Learning Frameworks

TensorFlow

MxNet

PyTorch

Chainer

### Training Options

Single Machine / Distributed

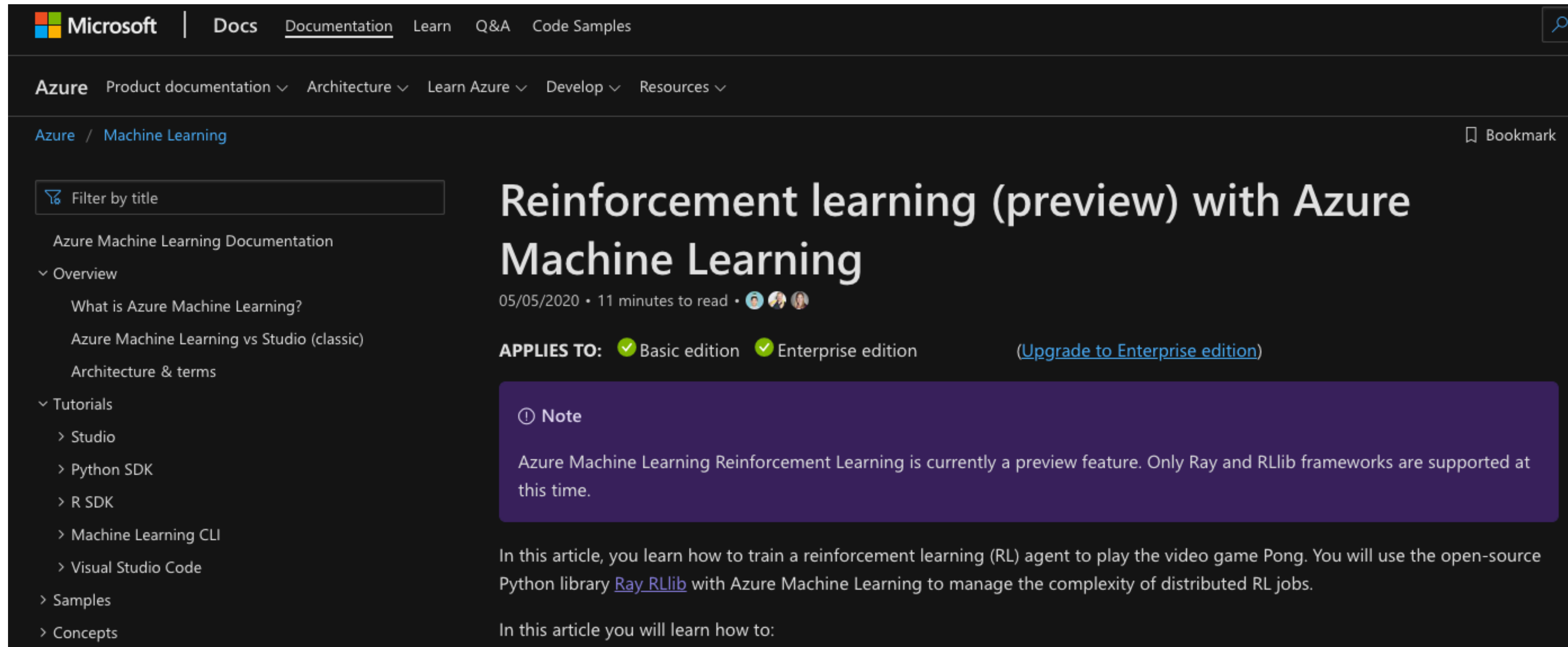
Local / Remote simulation

CPU / GPU Hardware

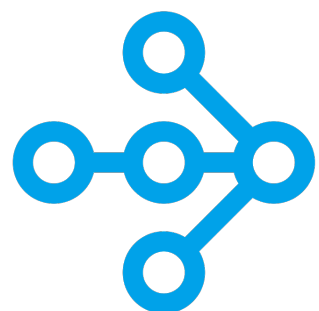
SageMaker supported

Customer BYO

# Now in Azure



The screenshot shows the Microsoft Azure documentation page for "Reinforcement learning (preview) with Azure Machine Learning". The page is in a dark theme. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Microsoft logo, "Docs", "Documentation", "Learn", "Q&A", and "Code Samples". Below this is a secondary navigation bar with "Azure", "Product documentation", "Architecture", "Learn Azure", "Develop", and "Resources". The breadcrumb trail shows "Azure / Machine Learning". A search bar is located in the top right corner. On the left side, there is a sidebar with a search filter "Filter by title" and a list of navigation items: "Azure Machine Learning Documentation", "Overview" (with sub-items "What is Azure Machine Learning?", "Azure Machine Learning vs Studio (classic)", and "Architecture & terms"), "Tutorials" (with sub-items "Studio", "Python SDK", "R SDK", "Machine Learning CLI", and "Visual Studio Code"), "Samples", and "Concepts". The main content area features the article title "Reinforcement learning (preview) with Azure Machine Learning" in large white text. Below the title, it shows the date "05/05/2020", the reading time "11 minutes to read", and three user avatars. A section titled "APPLIES TO:" includes checkmarks for "Basic edition" and "Enterprise edition", along with a link to "Upgrade to Enterprise edition". A purple callout box with a note icon contains the text: "Note: Azure Machine Learning Reinforcement Learning is currently a preview feature. Only Ray and RLlib frameworks are supported at this time." Below the callout, the article text begins: "In this article, you learn how to train a reinforcement learning (RL) agent to play the video game Pong. You will use the open-source Python library [Ray RLlib](#) with Azure Machine Learning to manage the complexity of distributed RL jobs." The text then starts with "In this article you will learn how to:".



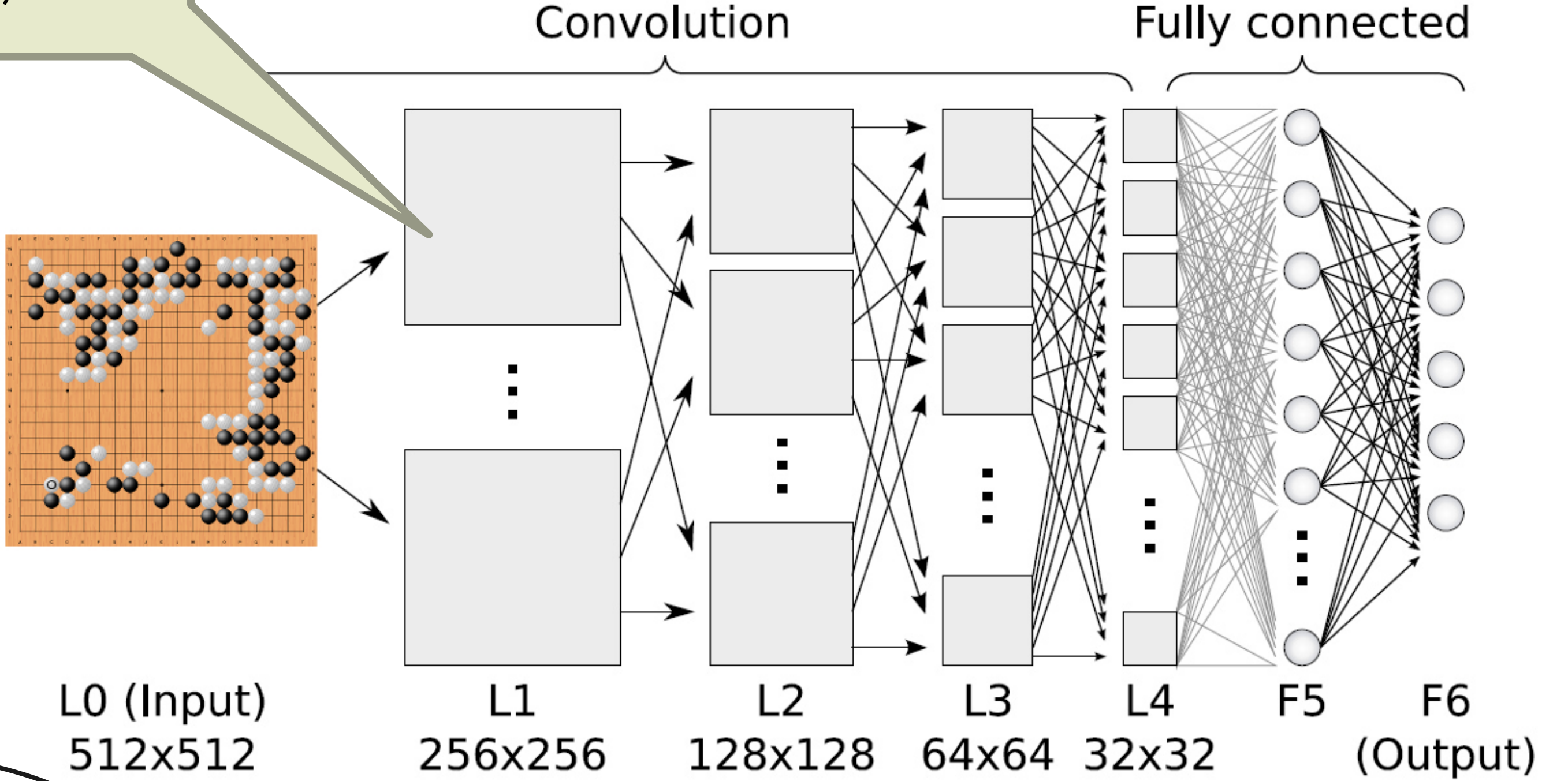
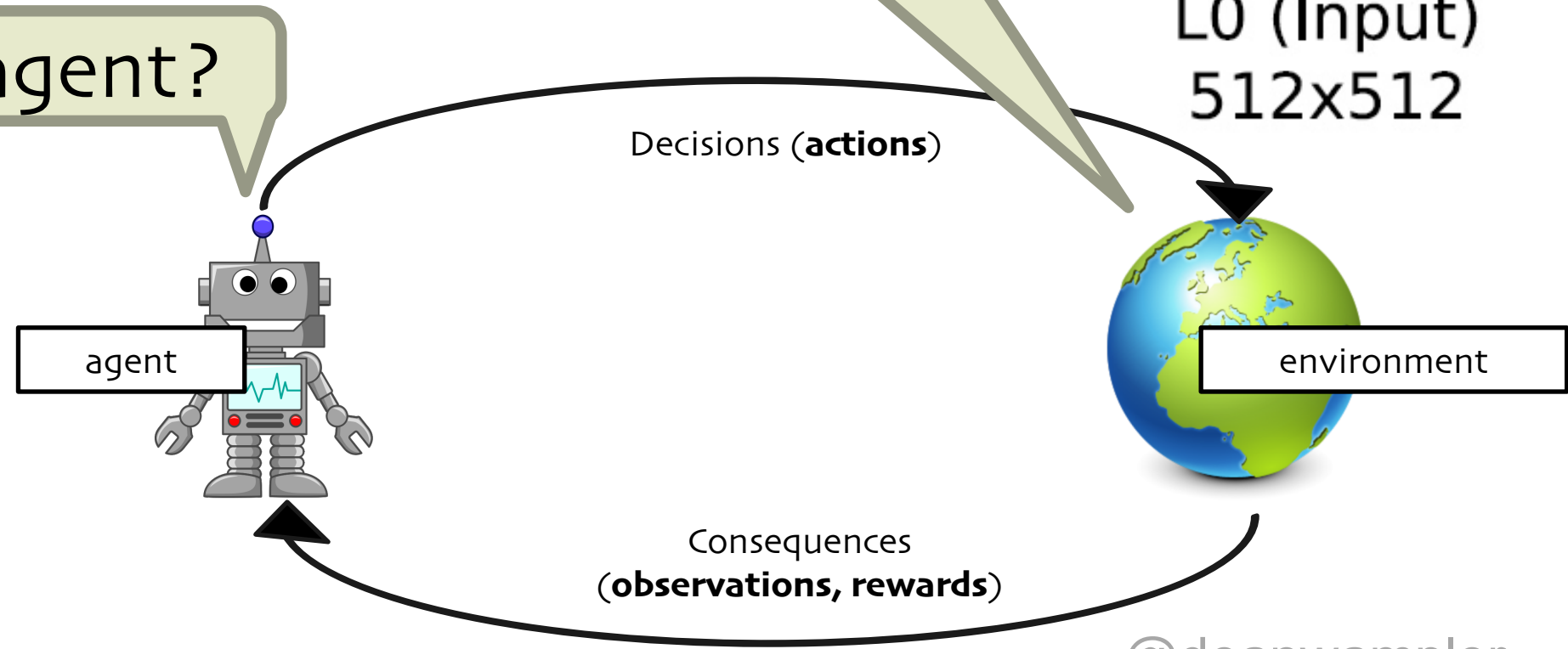
# Diverse Compute Requirements Motivated Creation of Ray!

And repeated play, over and over again, to train for achieving the best reward

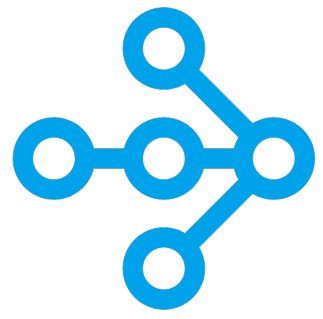
Neural network "stuff"

Simulator (game engine, robot sim, factory floor sim...)

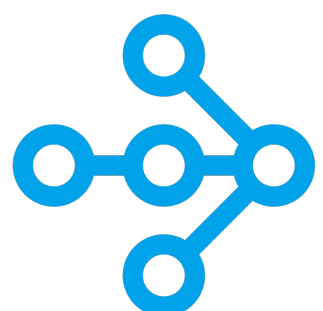
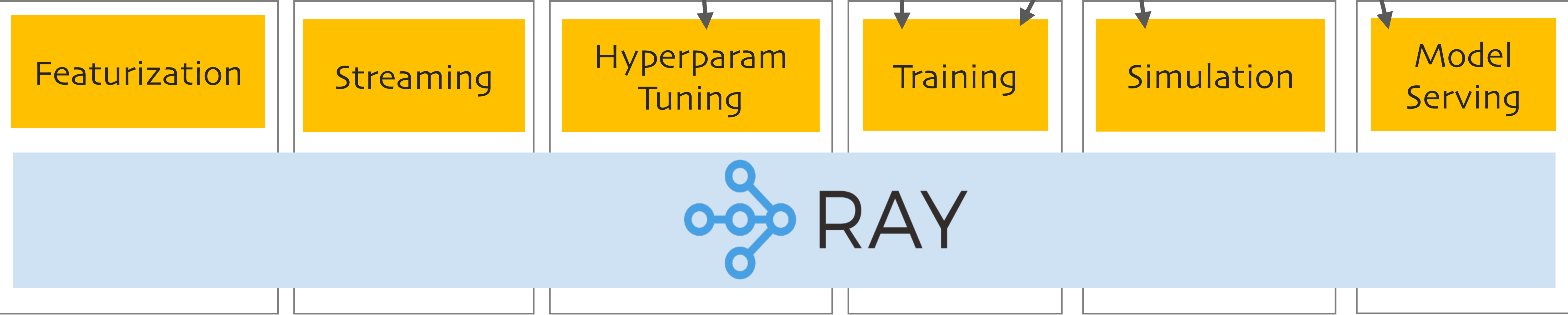
Complex agent?



- border fight
- attack
- center ko
- nobi
- hane
- split shape



# Hyperparameter Tuning - Ray Tune



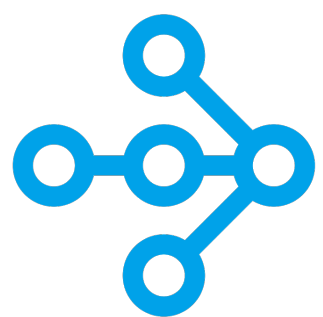
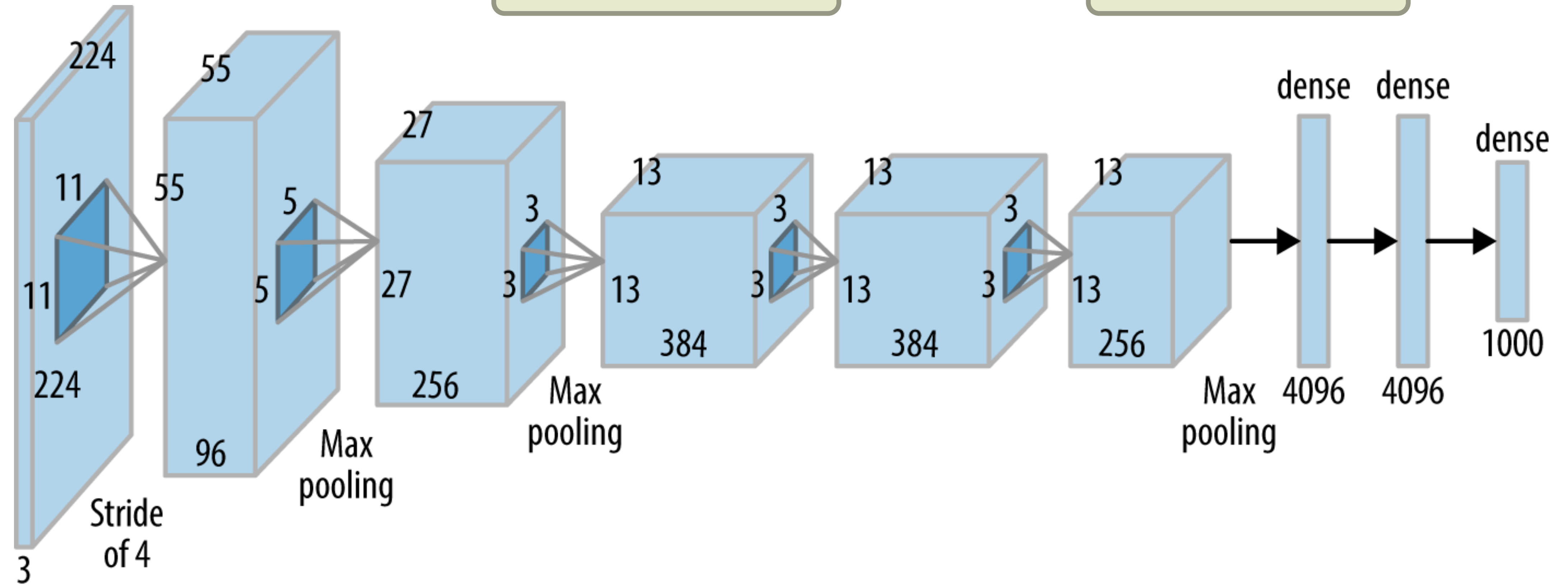
[tune.io](https://tune.io)

@deanwampler

# Nontrivial Example - Neural Networks

How many layers?  
What kinds of layers?

Every number shown is a  
hyperparameter!



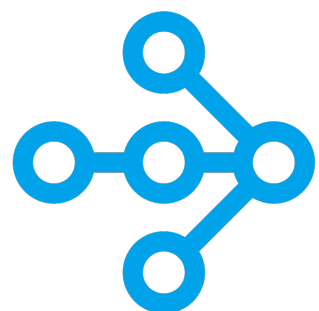
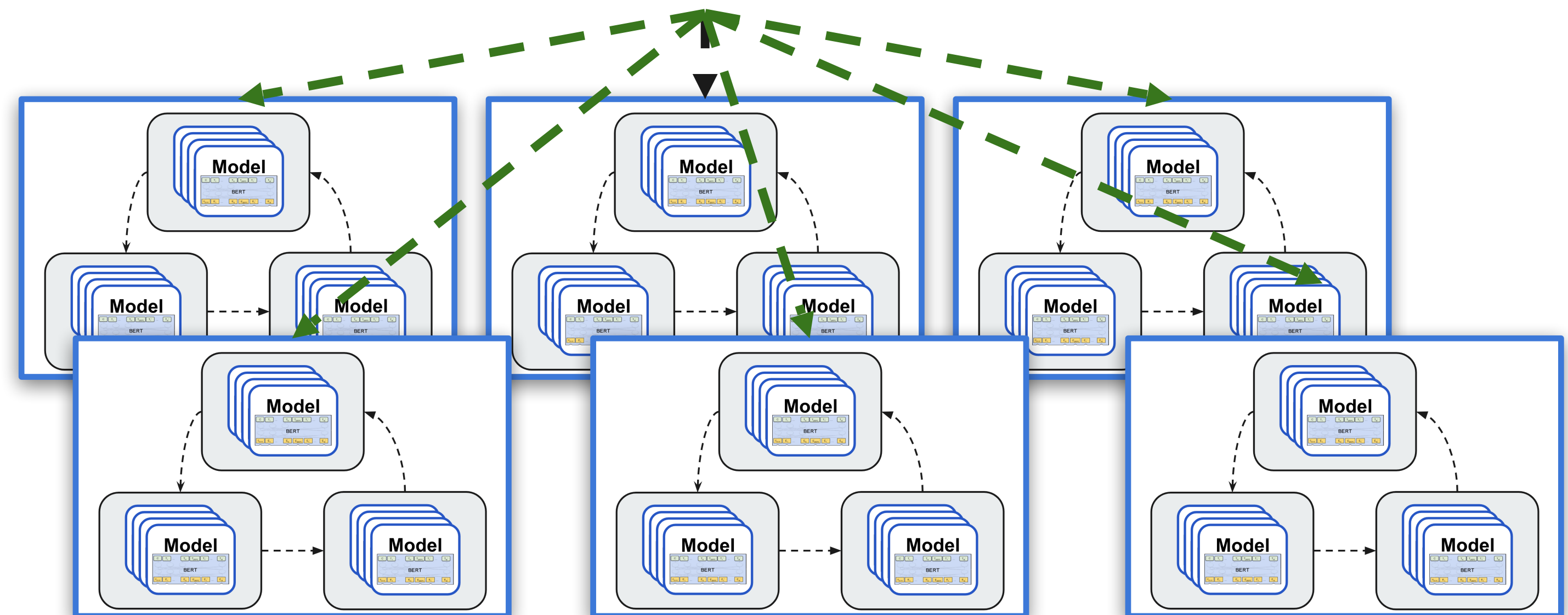


# Tuning + Distributed Training

```
tune.run(PytorchTrainable,  
        config={  
            "model_creator": PretrainBERT,  
            "data_creator": create_data_loader,  
            "use_gpu": True,  
            "num_replicas": 8,  
            "lr": tune.uniform(0.001, 0.1)  
        },  
        num_samples=100,  
        search_alg=BayesianOptimization()  
    )
```



The logo for the 'tune' library, featuring a stylized blue and yellow curve above the word 'tune' in a large, bold, sans-serif font.

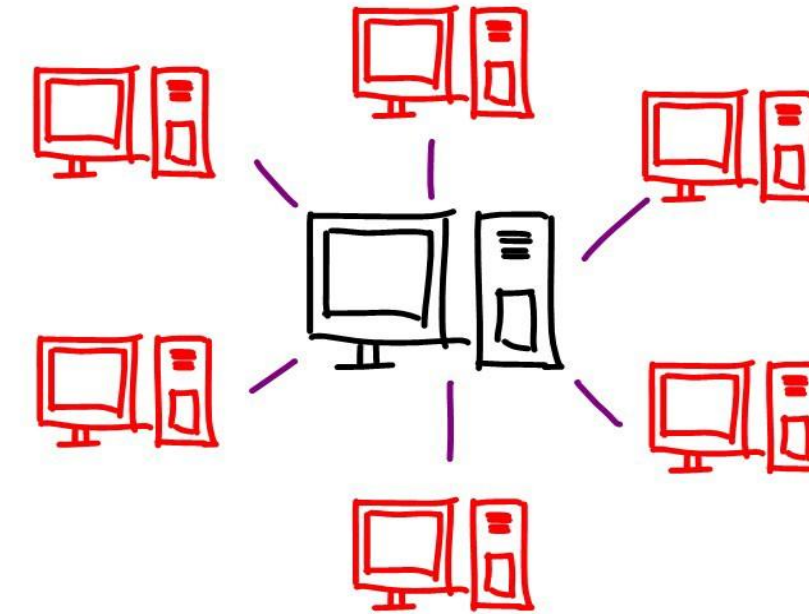


# Tune is Built with Deep Learning as a Priority

Resource Aware  
Scheduling



Seamless  
Distributed Execution



Simple API for  
new algorithms

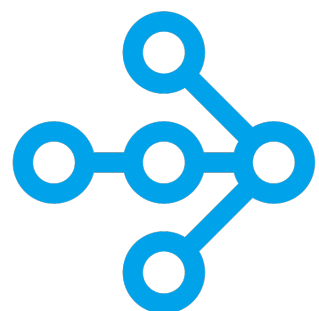
```
class TrialScheduler:  
    def on_result(self, trial, result): ...  
    def choose_trial_to_run(self): ...
```

Framework Agnostic



[tune.io](https://tune.io)

@deanwampler

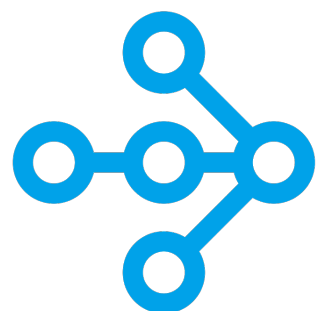
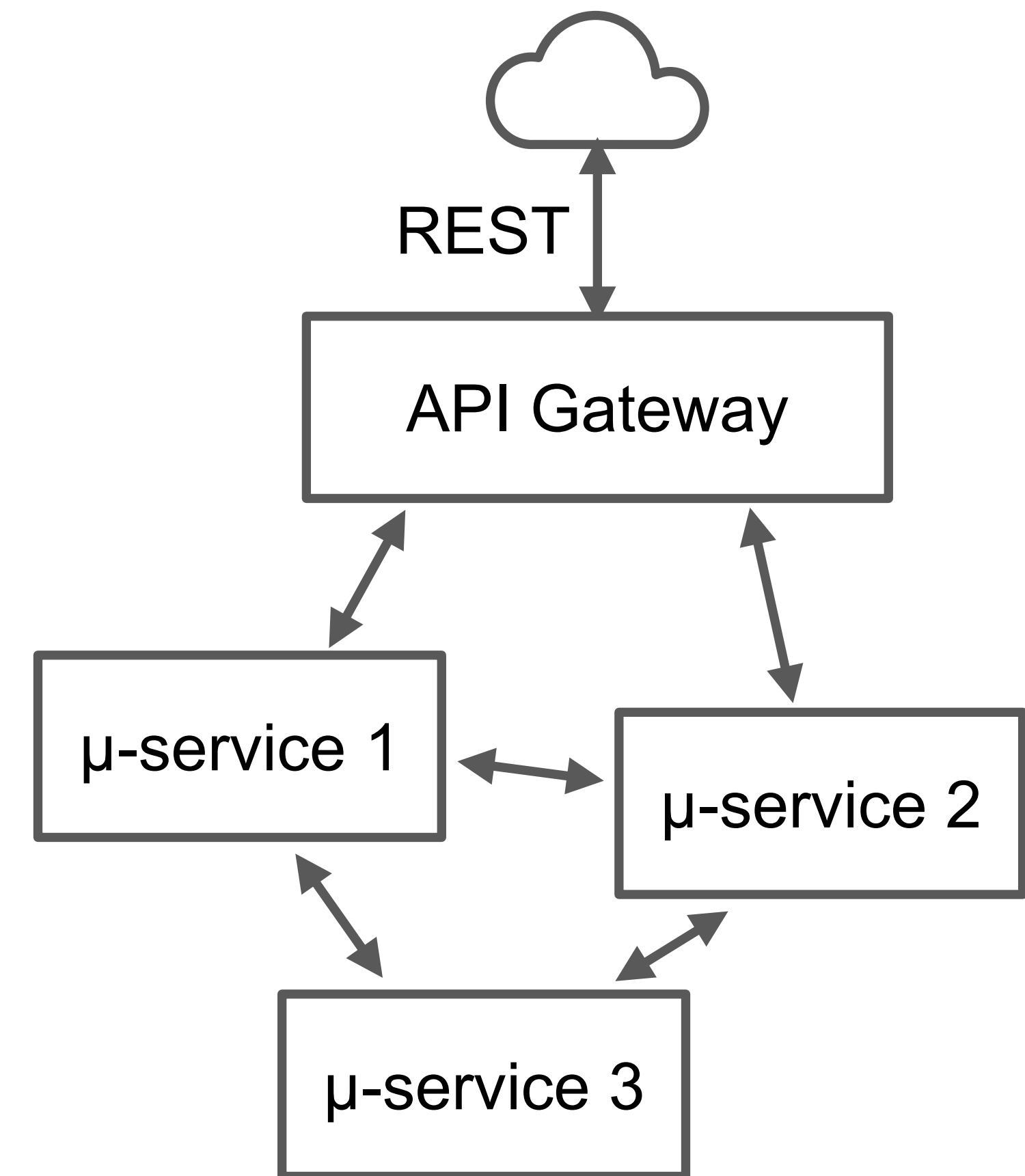




# What about Ray for Microservices?

# What Are Microservices?

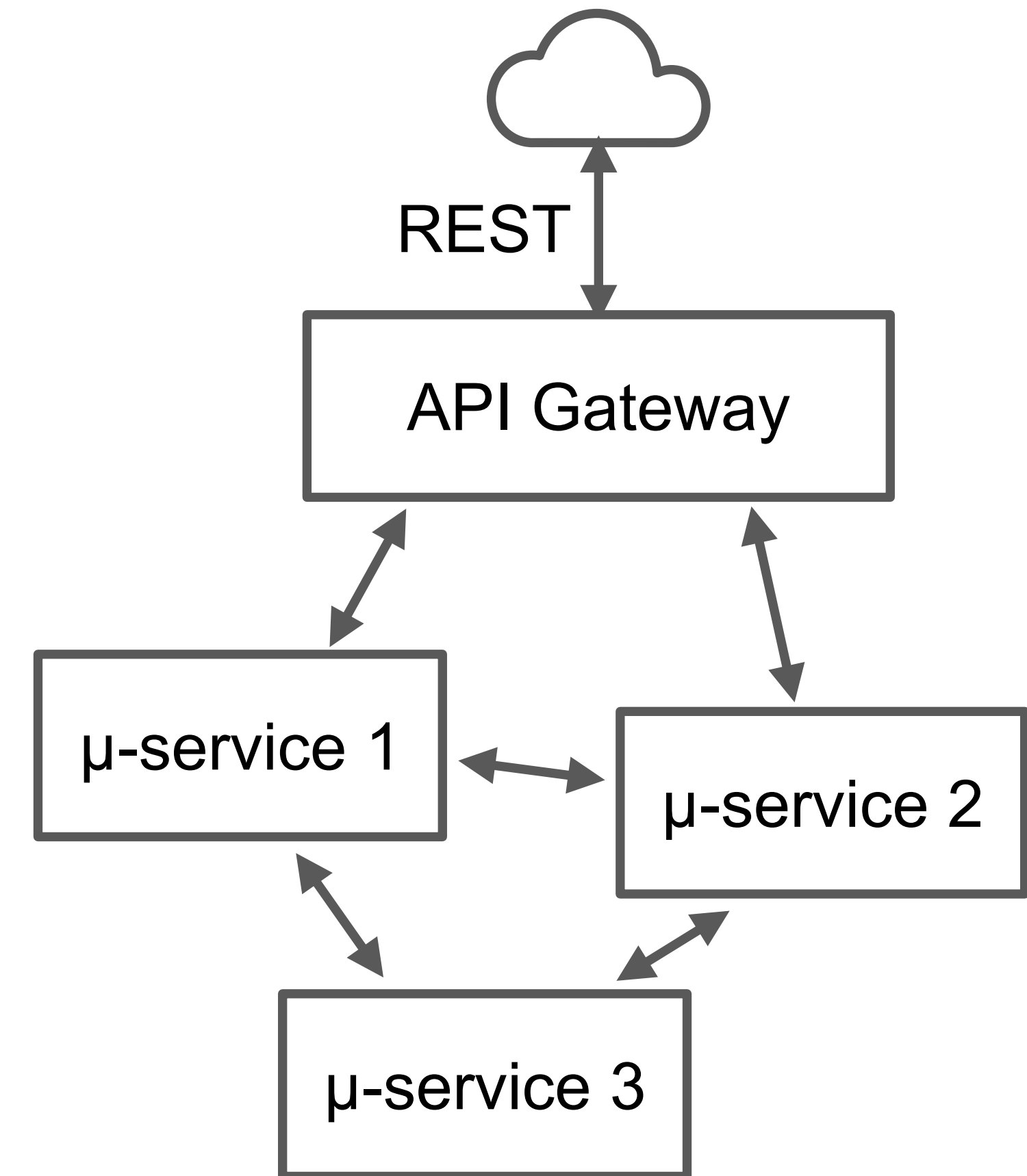
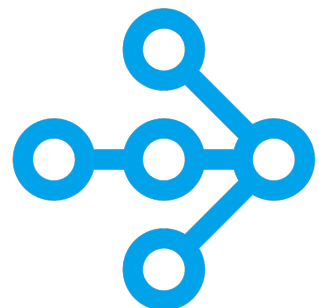
- They partition the domain
- Conway's Law - Embraced
- Separate responsibilities
- Separate management



# What Are Microservices?

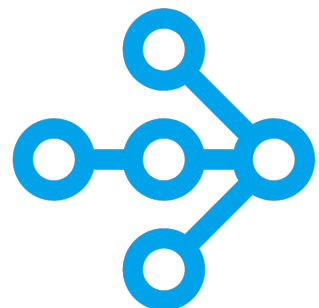
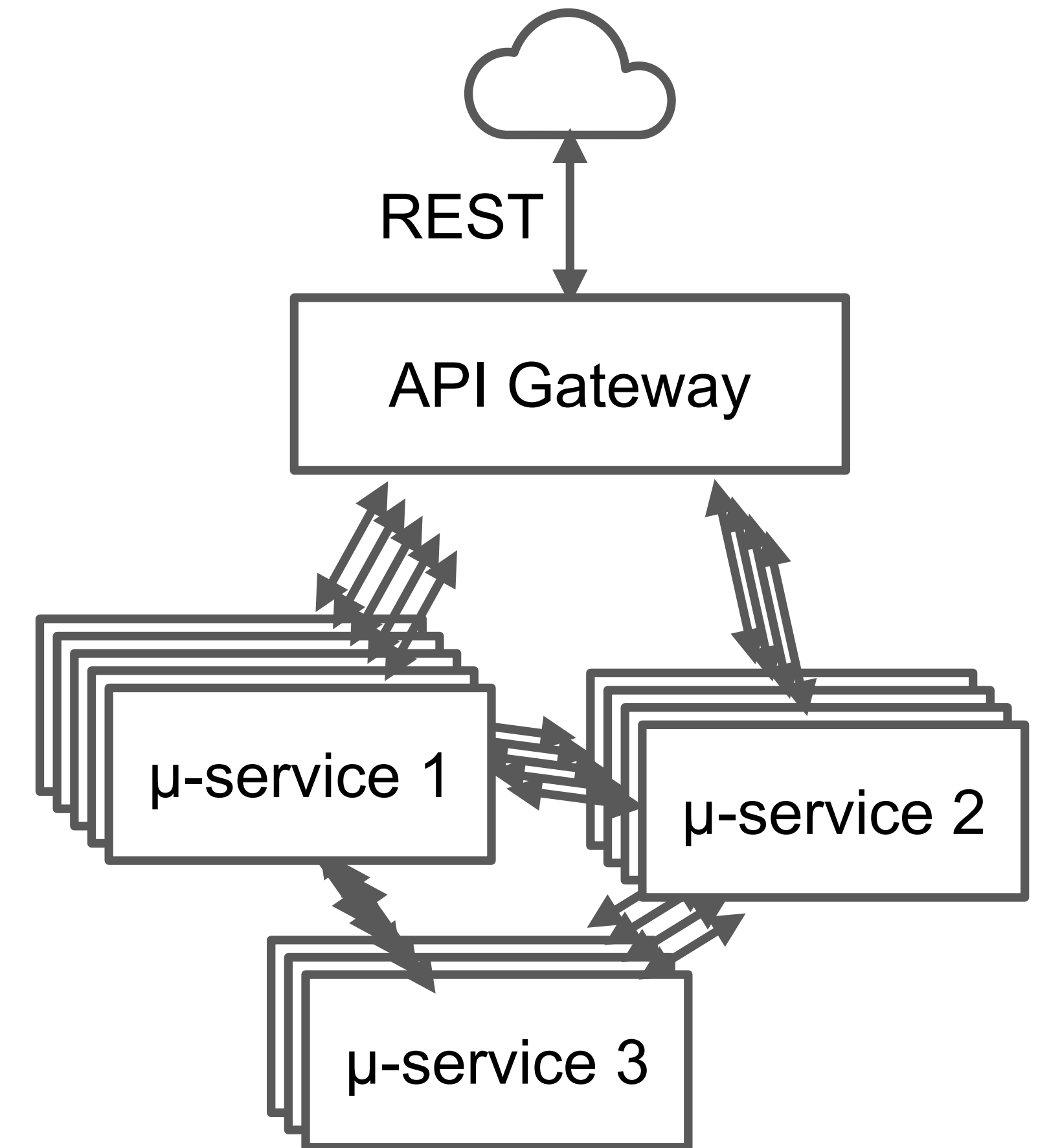
- They partition the domain
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What's most interesting for our purposes today.



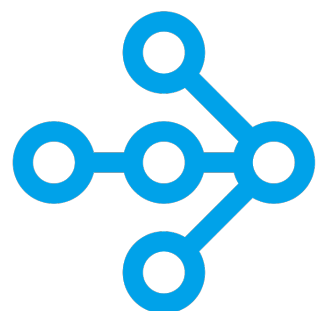
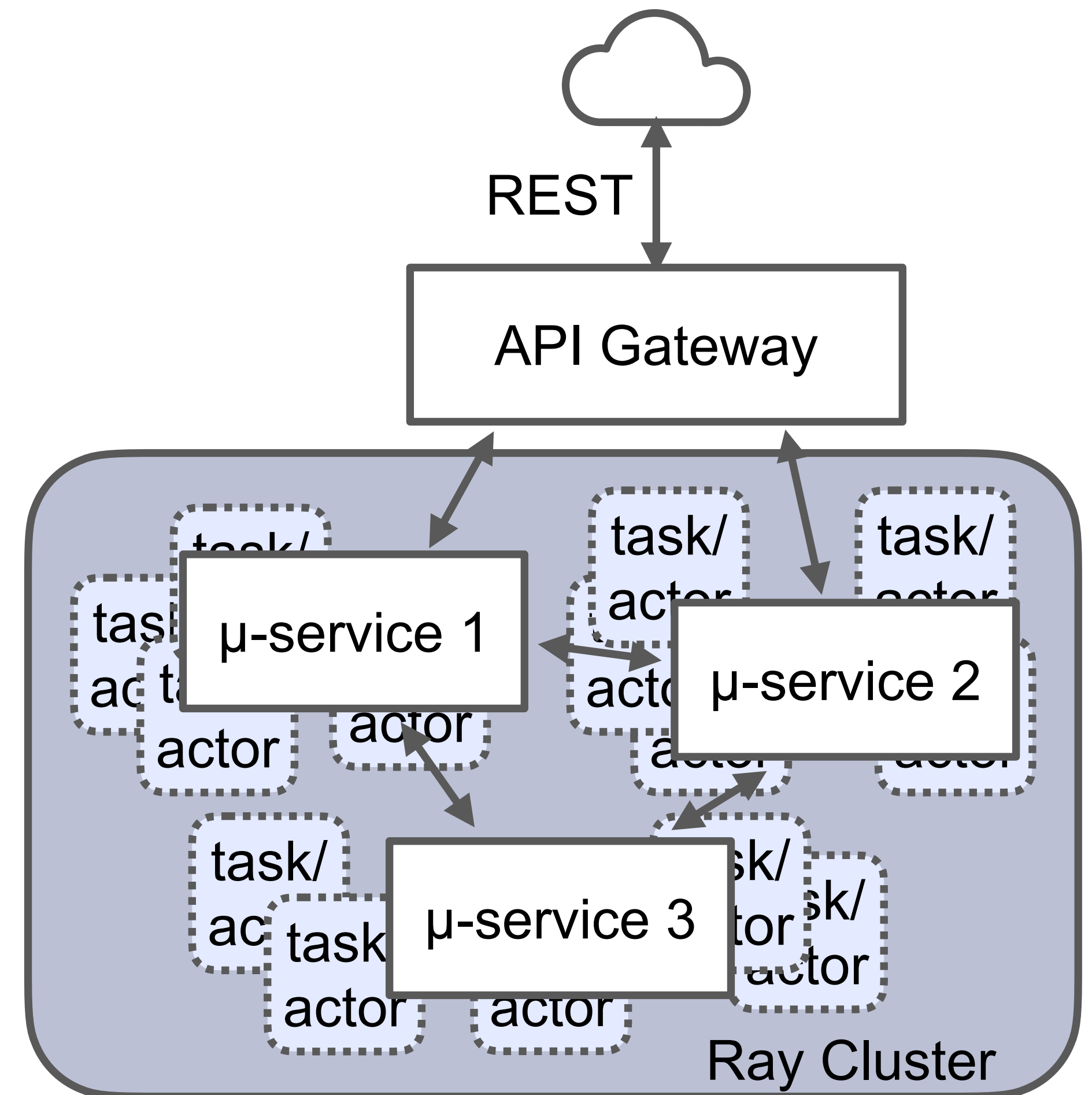
# Separate Management

- Each team manages its own instances
- Each microservice has a different number of instances for scalability and resiliency
- But they have to be managed **explicitly**



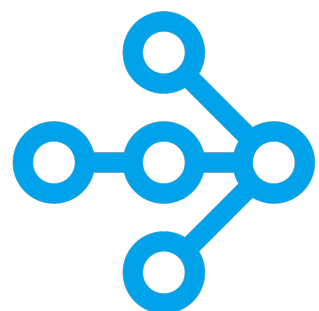
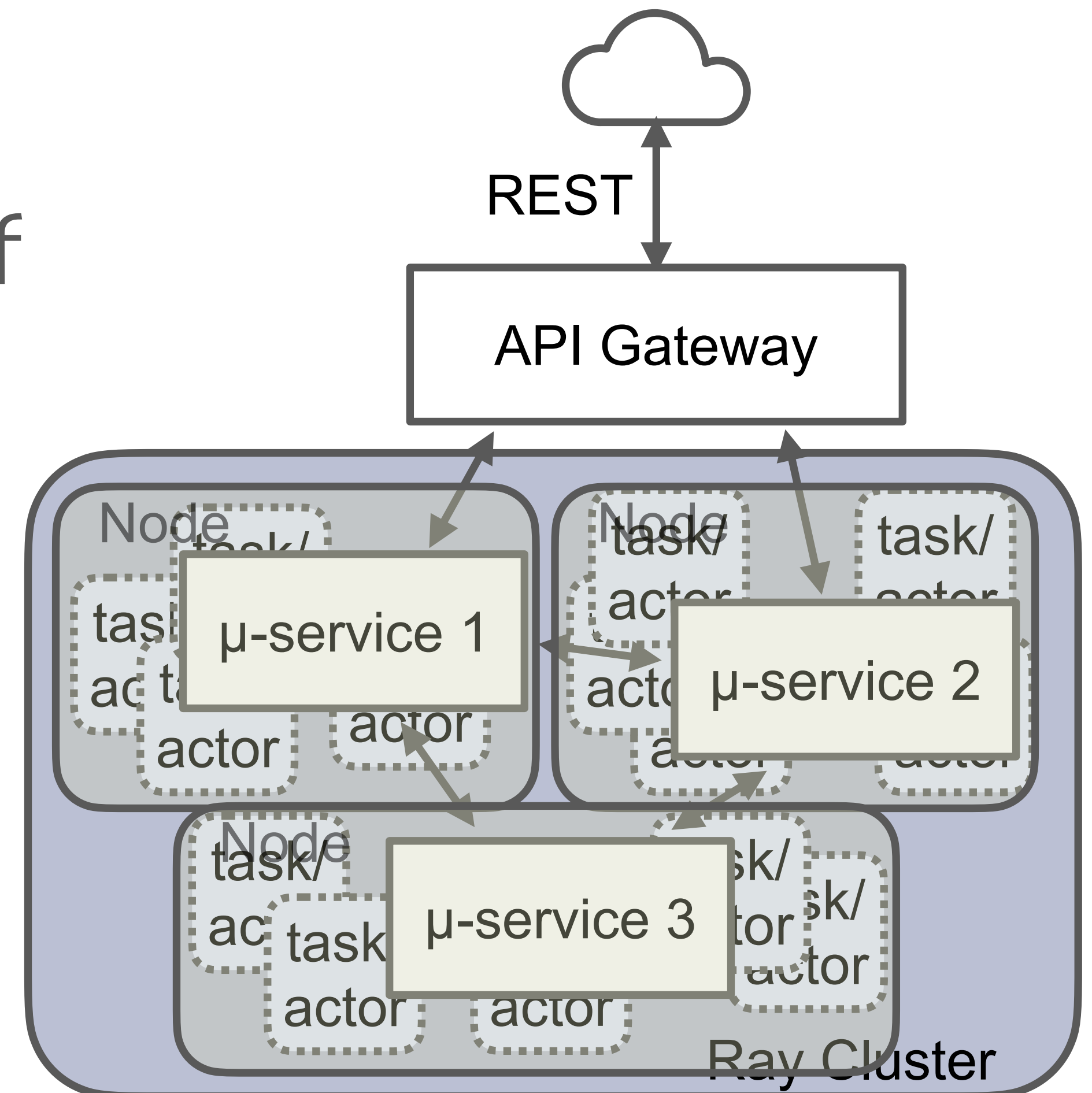
# Management - Simplified

- With Ray, you have one “logical” instance to manage and Ray does the cluster-wide scaling for you.



# What about Kubernetes (and others...)?

- Ray scaling is very fine grained.
- It operates within the “nodes” of coarse-grained managers
- Containers, pods, VMs, or physical machines







# Adopting Ray and the Ray community

# If you're already using...

- joblib
- multiprocessing.Pool

For example, from this:

```
from multiprocessing.pool import Pool
```

To this:

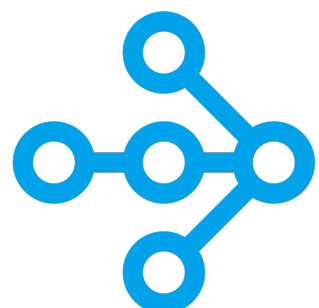
```
from ray.util.multiprocessing.pool import Pool
```

- Use Ray's implementations
  - Drop-in replacements
  - Change import statements
  - Break the one-node limitation!
- ... And Ray is integrated with asyncio

See these blog posts:

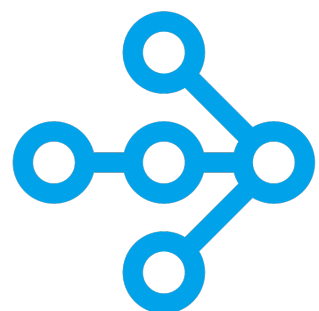
<https://medium.com/distributed-computing-with-ray/how-to-scale-python-multiprocessing-to-a-cluster-with-one-line-of-code-d19f242f60ff>

<https://medium.com/distributed-computing-with-ray/easy-distributed-scikit-learn-training-with-ray-54ff8b643b33>



# Ray Community and Resources

- [ray.io](https://ray.io)
- Tutorials (free): [anyscale.com/academy](https://anyscale.com/academy)
- Need help?
  - Ray Slack: [ray-distributed.slack.com](https://ray-distributed.slack.com)
  - [ray-dev](#) Google group





# RAY SUMMIT

Presented by Anyscale

*Scalable machine learning, scalable Python, for everyone*

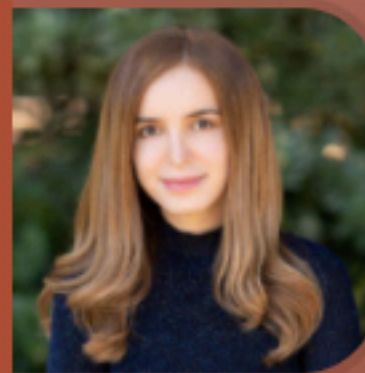
**September 30 – October 1**

## FEATURED SPEAKERS



**Michael Jordan**

Distinguished Professor,  
University of California, Berkeley



**Azalia Mirhoseini**

Senior Research Scientist, Google Brain



**Wes McKinney**

Founder, Ursa Labs



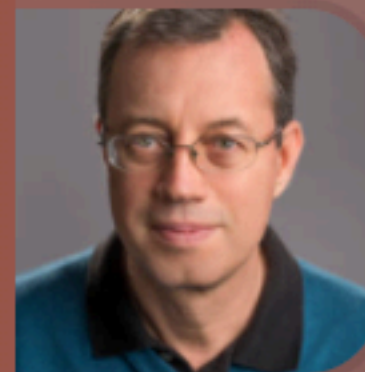
**Manuela Veloso**

Head of J.P. Morgan AI Research



**Gaël Varoquaux**

Tenured Research Director, Inria



**Ion Stoica**

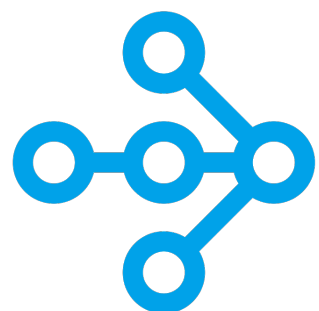
Professor, University of California, Berkeley



**Zoubin Ghahramani**

Chief Scientist & VP, Artificial Intelligence, Uber Technologies

[raysummit.org](http://raysummit.org)



@deanwampler



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# Thanks for Listening

[ray.io](https://ray.io)

[anyscale.com](https://anyscale.com) - We're Hiring!

[dean@anyscale.com](mailto:dean@anyscale.com)

[@deanwampler](https://twitter.com/deanwampler)



<https://anyscale.com/events>

