

A photograph of a golf course green with a golf ball and a hole. The background shows a line of trees and a grassy slope. The text "INTRODUCTION TO AI & TURF MODELLING" is overlaid in the center.

# INTRODUCTION TO AI & TURF MODELLING

# AGENDA

## Introduction to Artificial Intelligence:

- What is AI?
- AI branches
- Popular AI applications

## AI for turf management:

- Golf turf industry challenges
- AI use-cases and feasibility
- Time series analysis for turf grass maintenance



# SOMETHING ABOUT ME

Engineer in physics specializing in computational science

Worked with software last 15 years

- Ericsson
- Trade in Sports - Sports Tech startup
- SVEA Bank

Last 3 years Artificial Intelligence within steel industry

Passionate about golf courses

Football youth team coach and proud father of two future DIF strikers 🐾



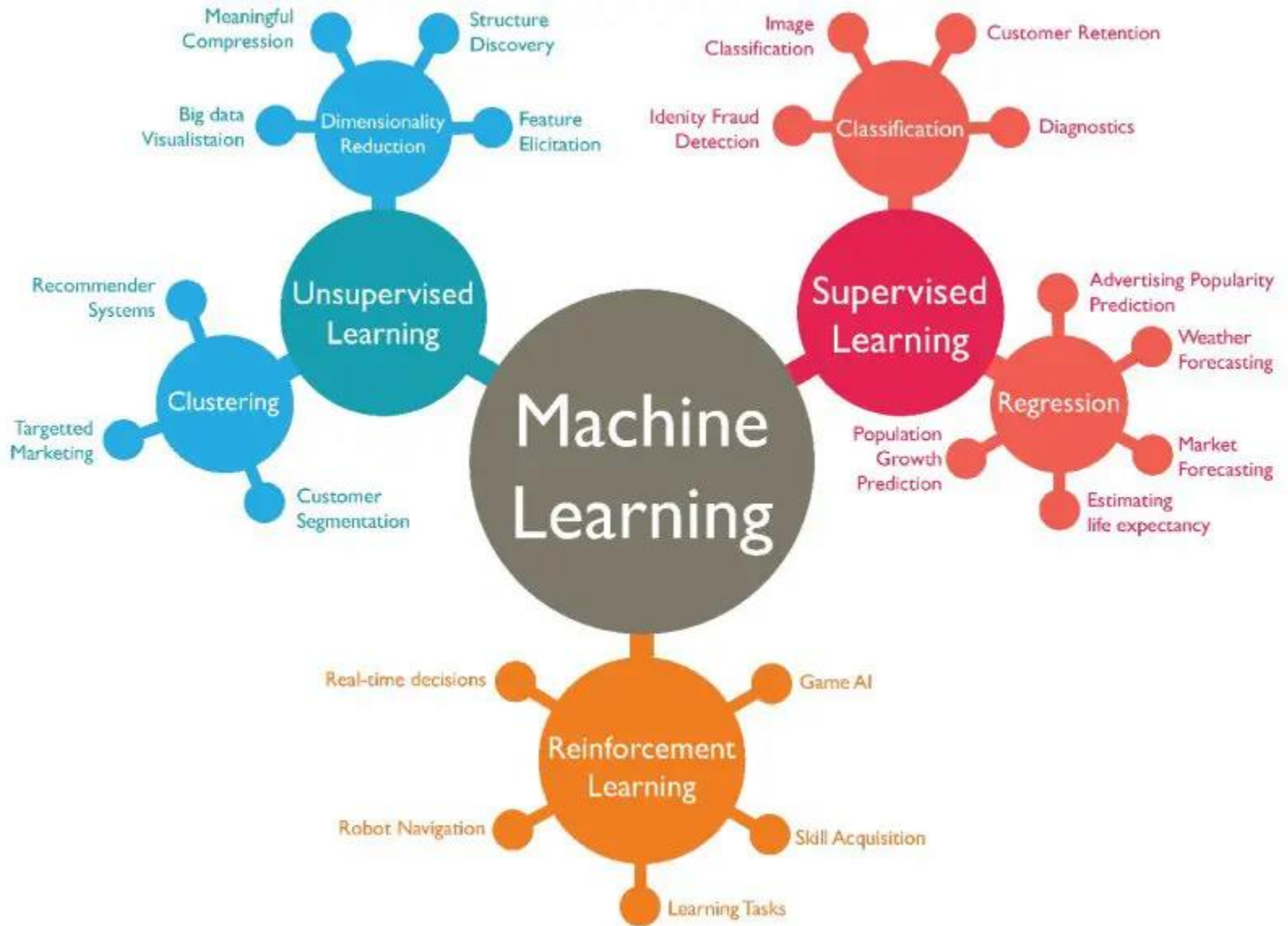
A photograph of a golf course green with a golf ball on a hole. The background shows a grassy slope and trees. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark green filter.

# INTRODUCTION TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

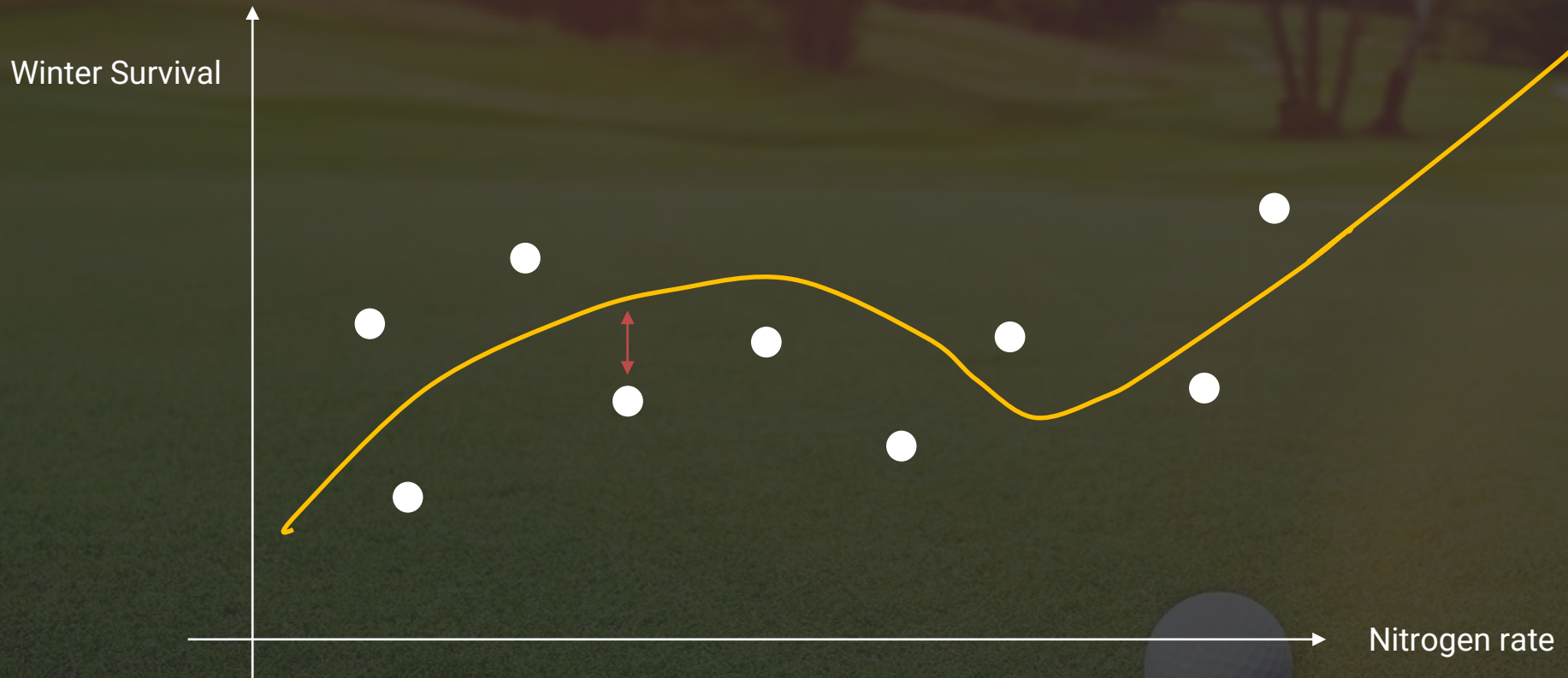
# WHAT IS AI?

- AI - systems that mimic cognitive functions;
  - See
  - Understand
  - Respond
  - Make recommendations
- Subtask oriented
- Machine learning – computer that learns from data and acts accordingly
- Shallow learning vs. deep learning
- Data + Algorithm - > ML model
- Target variables and features





## Basic ML concept



ML is algorithms that generate functions ( $y = f(x)$  like fictional yellow polynomial above) from empirical data (white dots above) that enable identification of optimization candidates in the data space. Not very valuable when investigating one parameter (as above) but when considering multiple dimensions with covarying parameters and time series data



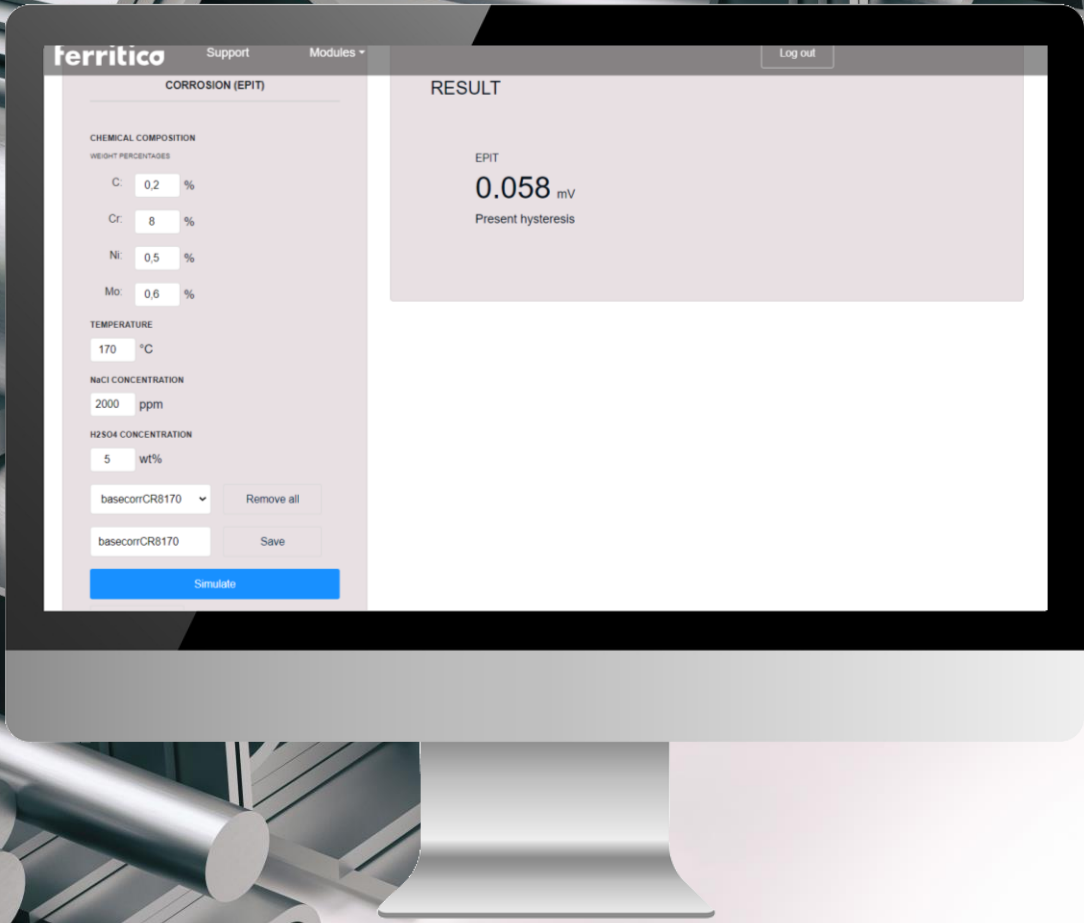
- Classic
- Minimalistic
- Street



## Breakthrough: a unique AI model for personal recommendations in online shopping. No data needed.

Stylee is a first mover using advanced image AI functionalities to help customers find clothes that fit their personal style (not what others have bought or similar items) and help retailers improve their conversion rates as well as lower the return rates.





ferritico

Support

Modules

Log out

CORROSION (EPIT)

RESULT

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

WEIGHT PERCENTAGES

C: 0.2 %

Cr: 8 %

Ni: 0.5 %

Mo: 0.6 %

TEMPERATURE

170 °C

NaCl CONCENTRATION

2000 ppm

H2SO4 CONCENTRATION

5 wt%

basecorrCR8170

Remove all

basecorrCR8170

Save

Simulate

EPIT

0.058 mV

Present hysteresis

# APPLYING AI ON GOLF TURF



# IDEA

Complement experience and trial-and-error based turf management with data driven method:

1. Web application for storing, searching and viewing turf maintenance and research data
2. Machine learning (ML) based web application to simulate i.a.:
  - a. Turf grass selection – what is the statistically optimal grass based on geography, soil etc.
  - b. Turf maintenance plan - what is the statistically optimal mowing height, watering etc. based on historical data



# SOLUTION - SIMULATION USE CASES

- **Irregular simulations - one-off simulations at construction or irregular renovation or maintenance initiatives:**
  - Grass selection at construction or reseedling
  - Winter survival plan – fertilizer and fungicides combinations
- **Continuous simulations – daily recipe simulation to optimize the continuous turf maintenance:**
  - Watering amount
  - Mowing height
  - Rolling
  - Topdressing
  - Fertilization



# TARGETS

- **Sustainability:**
  - Smart watering
  - Minimize use of pesticide and non eco-friendly chemicals
- **Quality – turf grass characteristics optimized for the application/use**
- **Cost – optimized maintenance requiring less resources (person-hours, energy, chemicals..)**



## TIME SERIES CHALLENGE – A COOKING ANALOGY

*“Just like dishes, turf quality depends on its mix of ingredients (fertilizer, grass etc.) in combination with the directions (rolling, mowing etc.).”*

*In contrast to cooking, trial-and-error is inefficient when optimizing turf since the impact of actions can only be observed with delay, i.e. not equivalent to picking up the spoon...”*



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# **AI GENERATED GOLF TURF MAINTENANCE PRESCRIPTIONS**

# SOLUTION & TARGETS

**Solution:** - Daily recipe simulation to optimize the continuous turf maintenance:

- Irrigation
- Mowing height
- Rolling
- Topdressing
- Fertilization

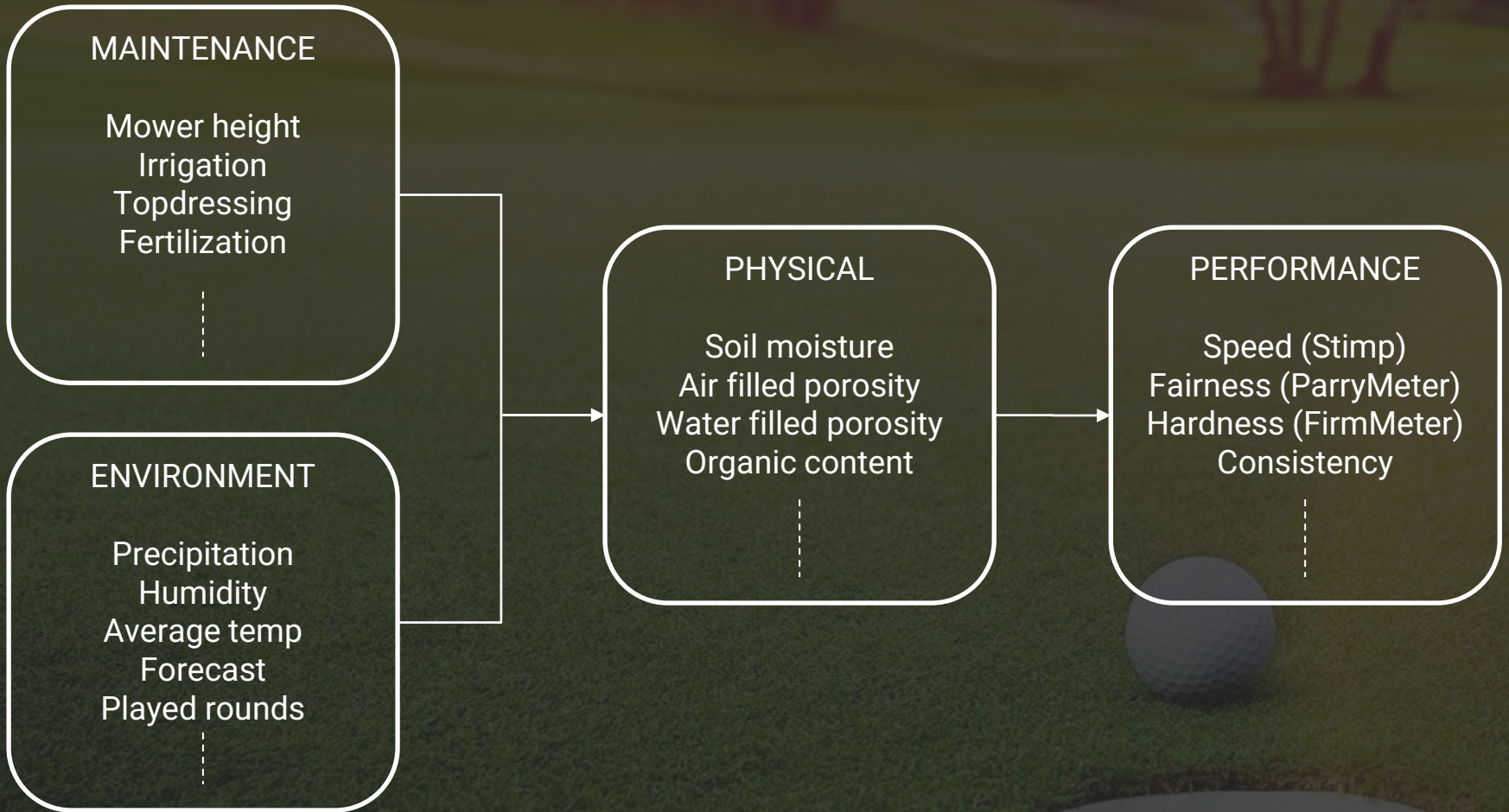
**Targets:**

- Sustainability
- Quality
- Maintenance cost





# TURF DATA AI MODELLING



# TIME SERIES ANALYSIS

- Time series approach (Recurrent Neural Networks) to provide green maintenance guidelines enabling optimization, i.e. develops ML models to learn correlation between turf data over time

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
Environment	X1	X2	X3	X4	X5	X6	X7	X8	X9	X10
Maintenance	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
<i>Physical</i>	Z1	Z2	Z3	Z4	Z5	Z6	Z7	Z8	Z9	Z10
Performance	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8	P9	P10

# PREREQUISITES

## Data availability – volume and completeness

- For how long does a greenkeeper need to measure data in order to get statistically valid prescriptions?
- What does a greenkeeper have to measure in order to get statistically valid prescriptions?
- What is the accuracy of a model, that has learnt from data from one green, on another green on the same course?



# SOLUTION ROADMAP

- **Backtest and validate accuracy of RNN model**
- **Define data requirements and generalizability**
- **Invert and make solution generative**
- **Stop asking “What do I get if..?” and ask “How do I get?”**



# PROOF-OF-CONCEPT PROJECT

- **State-of-the-art analysis** -> lessons learned
- **Software design** – shortlist relevant features to include
- **Collect data**
- **Develop RNN models**
- **Simulation model test**
- **Testing**



# COLLABORATION

- **System design**
- **Domain expertise**
- **Data collection and supply**





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