The Art of Prediction

CSCI 373

Mike Heroux

Background

"It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future."

    – Yogi Berra

Stein's Law: *If a trend cannot continue, it will stop.*

   –   Herbert Stein, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under Nixon and Ford.

Foundations of Trend Prediction

1. Observed Data.
   – Similar setting.
2. Observed Trends.
   – Observed data over time.
3. Known constraints.
   – Global min/max.
4. Mathematical models.
5. Expert opinion.

Weather Forecasting

How do each of these five approaches appear in weather forecasting?