

# Class 6- Machine Learning concepts

## Part III (putting it together!)



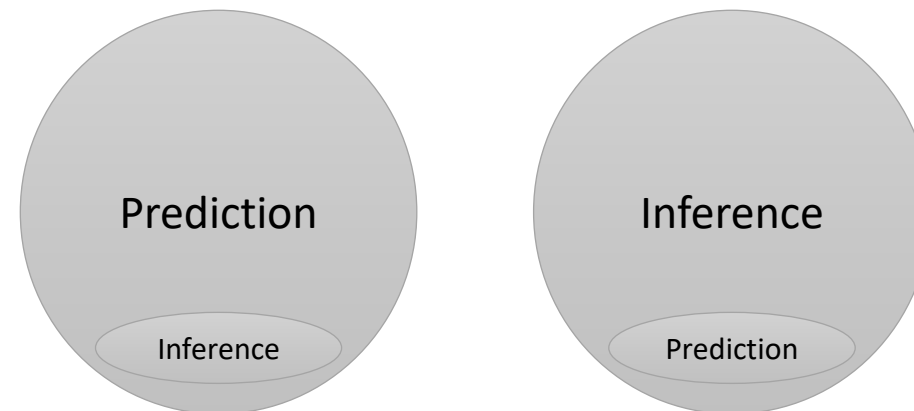


# Motivation

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Machine learning fundamental concepts:

- Inference and prediction
- Part I: The Model
- Part II: Evaluation metrics
- Part III: Bias-Variance tradeoff
- Part IV: Resampling methods
- Part V: Solvers/learners (GD, SGD, Adagrad, Adam, ...)
- **Part VI: How do machines learn?**
- **Part VII: Scaling the features**

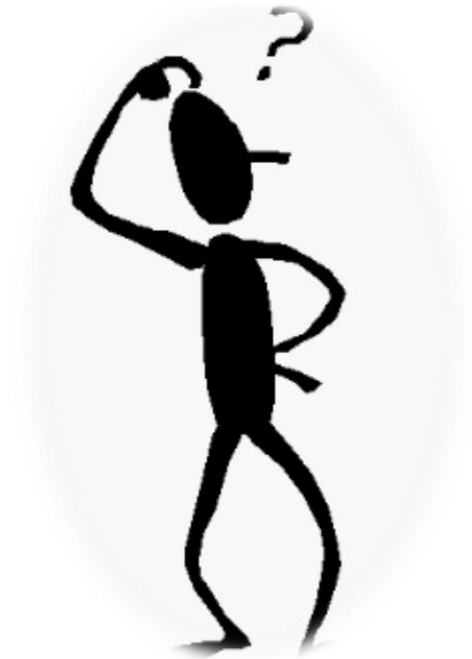


# Part VI

## How do machines learn?

# ➔ What is Machine Learning?

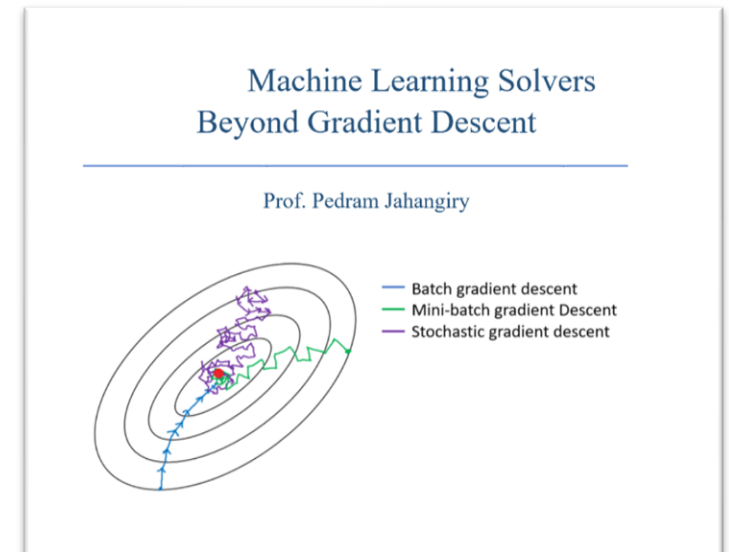
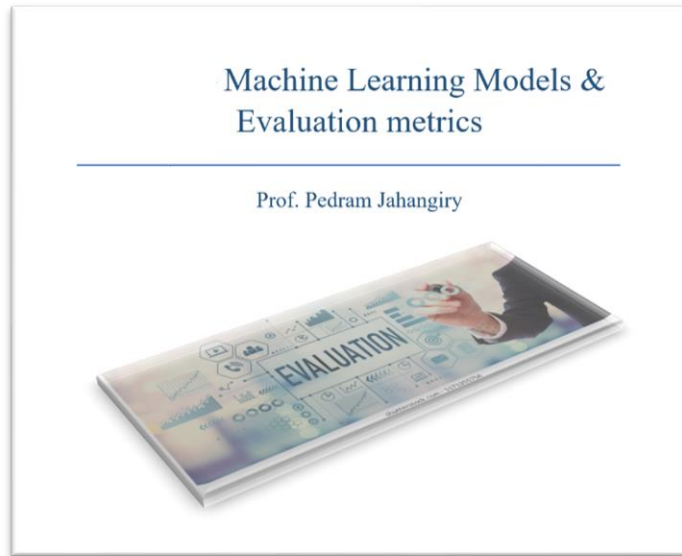
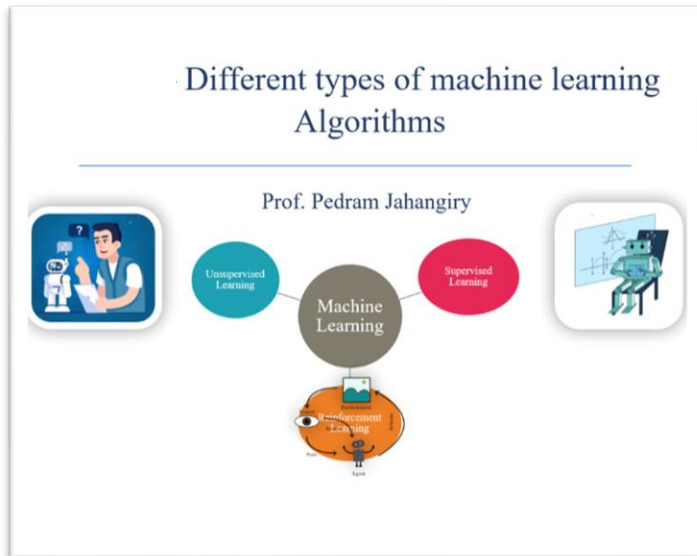
“A ML algorithm learns **complex patterns** in a **high dimensional** space **without being specifically directed**”



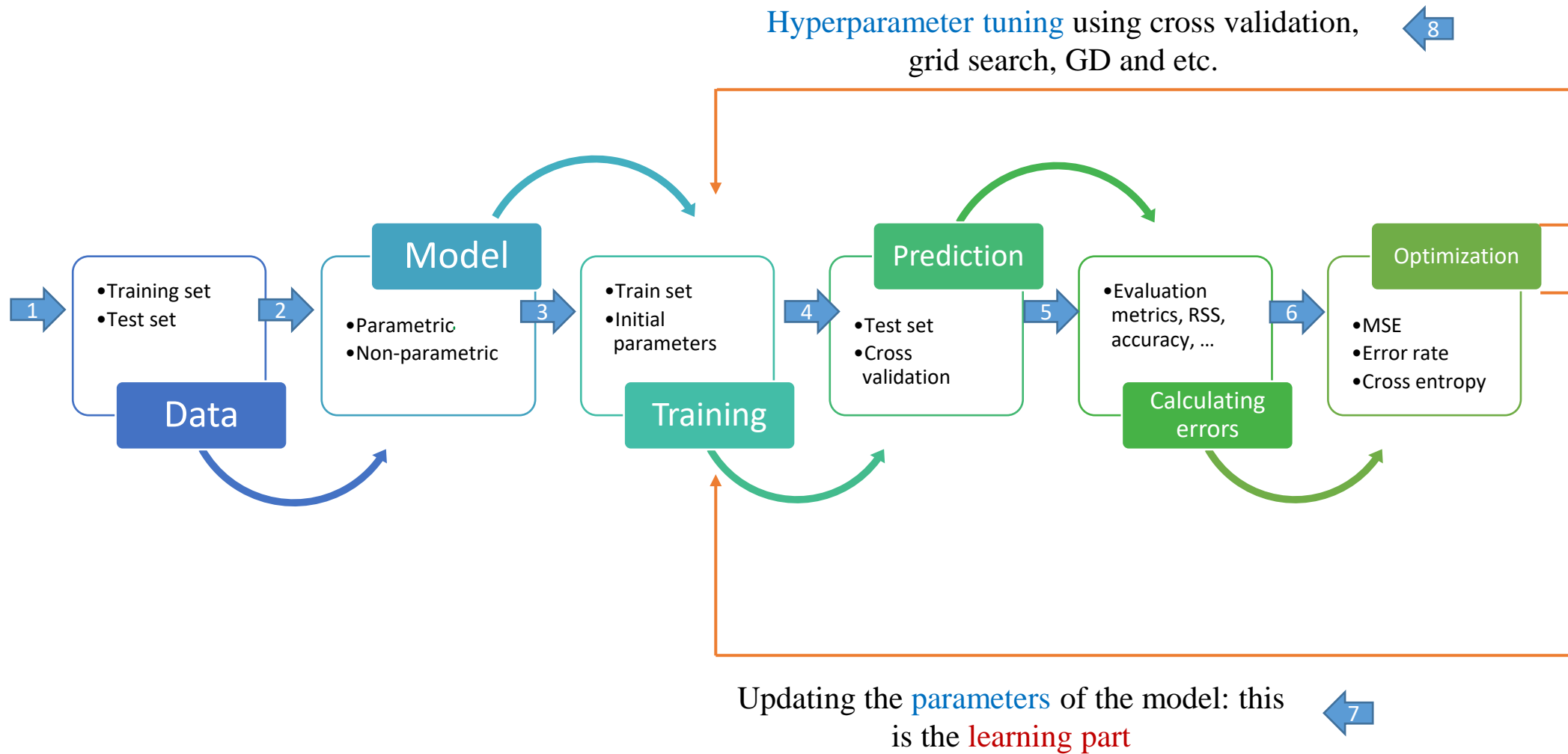
# ➔ How do machines learn?

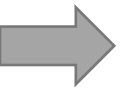
The short answer: by **Algorithms**!

- **Algorithm**: a process or set of rules to be followed in calculations or other problem-solving operations, especially by a computer.
- Generally, the more data a machine learning algorithm is provided with, the more accurate it becomes.



# How do machines learn?





# Question of the day!

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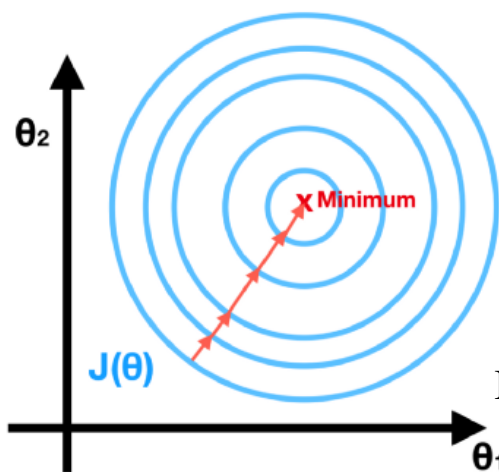
# Part VII

## Scaling the features!

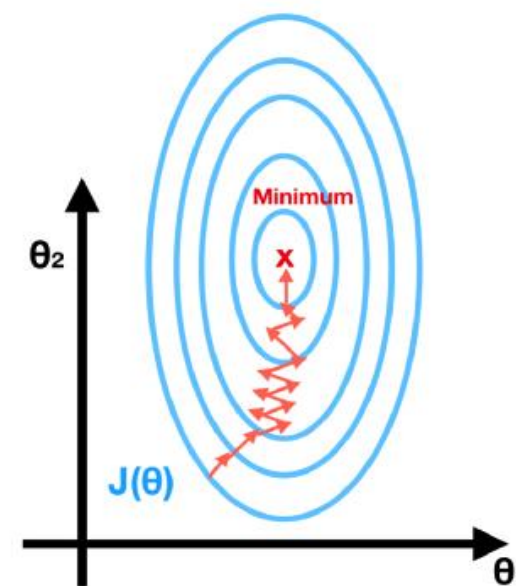


# → Why feature scaling?

- Feature scaling in machine learning is a critical step during the **pre-processing** of data **before creating a machine learning model**.
- Feature scaling is essential for machine learning models that calculate **distances between data**.
- Feature scaling could:
  - Avoid numerical overflow and speed up the algo
  - Reduce dominant effects of specific variables



Both parameters could be updated in equal proportions



Gradient of larger parameters dominates the updates

# → Scaling the features

Let us use  $x_i$  for raw input and  $\tilde{x}_i$  for the transformed data. Common scaling practices include:

- Standardization (Z-score):  $\tilde{x}_i = \left( \frac{x_i - \mu_x}{\sigma_x} \right)$

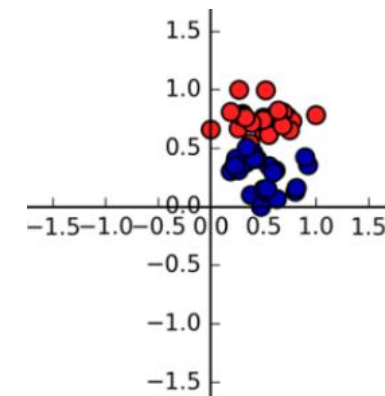
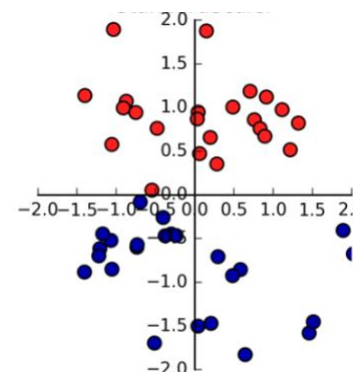
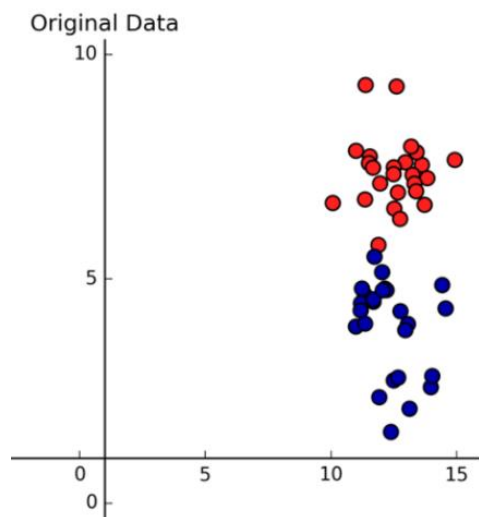
- Normalization:

- Min-Max scaler over  $[0,1]$ :

$$\tilde{x}_i = \left( \frac{x_i - \text{Min}(X)}{\text{Max}(X) - \text{Min}(X)} \right)$$

- Min-Max scaler over  $[-1,1]$ :

$$\tilde{x}_i = 2 * \left( \frac{x_i - \text{Min}(X)}{\text{Max}(X) - \text{Min}(X)} \right) - 1$$



# ➔ Normalization vs Standardization

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- **Normalization** is good to use when the distribution of the data **does not follow a Normal distribution**.
- **Standardization**, can be helpful in cases where the data **follows a Normal distribution**. However, this does not have to be necessarily true.
- Unlike normalization, standardization does not have a **bounding range**. So, even if you have **outliers** in your data, they will not be affected by standardization.
- The choice of using normalization or standardization will **depend on** your **problem** and the **machine learning algorithm** you are using



# Some general hints with scaling

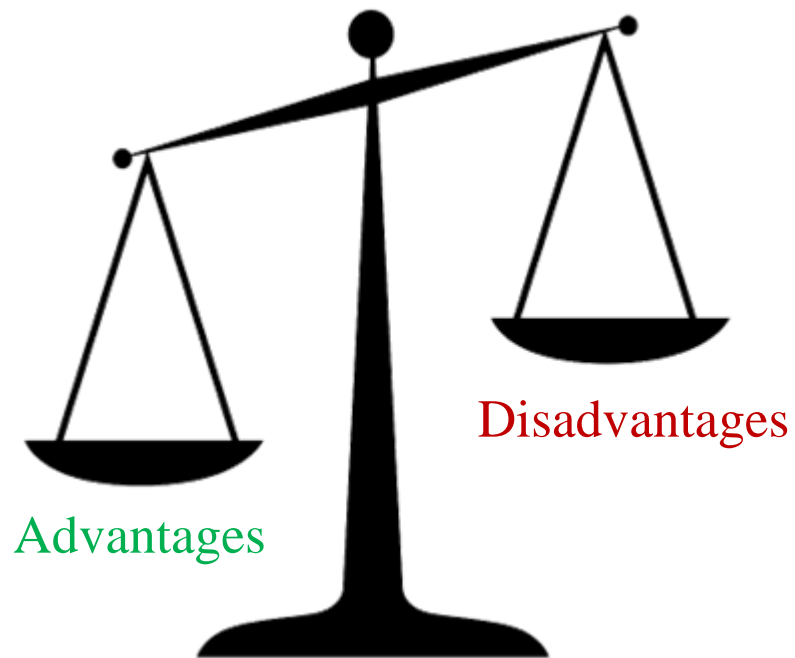
- Be careful when scaling the **time series data**! Why?
- To avoid **data leakage**, It is a good practice to fit the scaler on the training data and then use it to transform the testing data.
- Scaling the data **does NOT** change the shape of the distributions.
- Scaling is **beneficial to most** machine learning models. However, modern implementations are robust to features lying in different ranges.



# → Question of the day?

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What are the disadvantages of feature scaling (if any)?





# What's next?

