

# Machine Learning - 4105931

## Lecture 2 The Learning Problem

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# 課程教材

- Machine Learning Foundations

- <http://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~htlin/mooc/>

- Text Book

- Learning from Data, Yaser Abu-Mostafa, Malik Magdon-Ismail and Hsuan-Tien Lin.

- Online Course Materials (機器學習基石)

- <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXVfgk9fNX2I7tB6oIINGBmW50rrmFTqf>

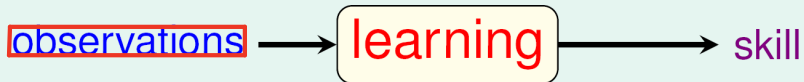


# Section Summary

- When Can Machines Learn?
  - Lecture 1: The Learning Problem
    - What is Machine Learning
    - Applications of Machine Learning
    - Components of Machine Learning
    - Machine Learning and Other Fields

# From Learning to Machine Learning

**learning**: acquiring **skill**  
with experience accumulated from **observations**



**machine learning**: acquiring **skill**  
with experience accumulated/**computed** from **data**



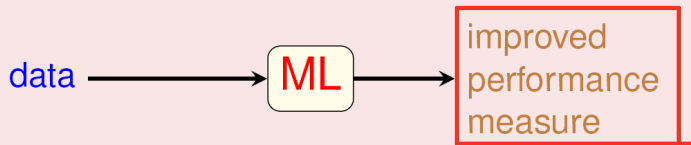
What is **skill**?

# A More Concrete Definition

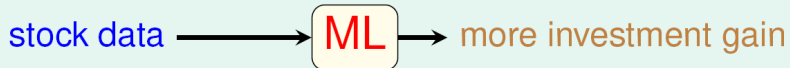
skill

⇔ improve some performance measure (e.g. prediction accuracy)

**machine learning**: improving some performance measure  
with experience **computed** from data



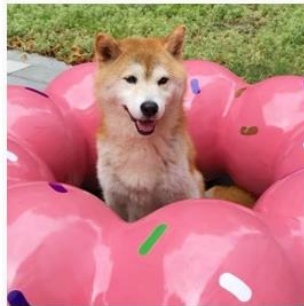
## An Application in Computational Finance



Why use machine learning?

# Dog Recognition

- 如何定義柴犬? (Instagram : shiba\_feifei ) 柴犬飛飛



# Are These Shiba Dogs?



# Tree Recognition

- ‘Define’ Shiba Dogs : **difficult**.
- Learn from data (observations) and recognize: a **3-year-old can do so**.
- ‘ML-based Shiba Dog recognition system’ can be **easier to build** than hand-programmed system.

ML: an **alternative route** to build complicated systems





# Use Cases of Using Machine Learning

ML: an **alternative route** to build complicated systems

## Some Use Scenarios

- when human cannot program the system manually  
—navigating on Mars 系統的複雜
- when human cannot 'define the solution' easily  
—speech/visual recognition 答案不容易定義
- when needing rapid decisions that humans cannot do  
—high-frequency trading 快速決策
- when needing to be user-oriented in a massive scale  
—consumer-targeted marketing 使用者

# Key Essence of Machine Learning

- 使用機器學習的時機

- 1 exists some 'underlying pattern' to be learned  
—so 'performance measure' can be improved 資料分佈需要規則
- 2 but no programmable (easy) definition  
—so 'ML' is needed 複雜度高
- 3 somehow there is data about the pattern  
—so ML has some 'inputs' to learn from 收集得到資料

key essence: help decide whether to use ML

# Fun Time

Which of the following is best suited for machine learning?

- ☒ 1 predicting whether the next cry of the baby girl happens at an even-numbered minute or not 隨機/沒有資料分佈
- ☒ 2 determining whether a given graph contains a cycle
- ☒ 3 deciding whether to approve credit card to some customer
- ☒ 4 guessing whether the earth will be destroyed by the misuse of nuclear power in the next ten years 沒有資料

# Fun Time

Which of the following is best suited for machine learning?

- ① predicting whether the next cry of the baby girl happens at an even-numbered minute or not
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- ③ deciding whether to approve credit card to some customer
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Reference Answer: ③

- ① no pattern
- ② programmable definition
- ③ pattern: customer behavior;  
definition: not easily programmable;  
data: history of bank operation
- ④ arguably no (or not enough) data yet

# Applications of Machine Learning

- Daily Needs: Food, Clothing, Housing, Transportation

- 1 Food (Sadilek et al., 2013)

- **data**: Twitter data (words + location)
- **skill**: tell food poisoning likeliness of restaurant properly

- 2 Clothing (Abu-Mostafa, 2012)

- **data**: sales figures + client surveys
- **skill**: give good fashion recommendations to clients

- 3 Housing (Tsanas and Xifara, 2012)

- **data**: characteristics of buildings and their energy load
- **skill**: predict energy load of other buildings closely

- 4 Transportation (Stallkamp et al., 2012)

- **data**: some traffic sign images and meanings
- **skill**: recognize traffic signs accurately

**ML** is everywhere!

# Components of Learning

- Credit Approval

## Applicant Information

age	23 years
gender	female
annual salary	NTD 1,000,000
year in residence	1 year
year in job	0.5 year
current debt	200,000

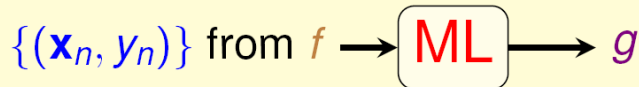
**unknown** pattern to be learned:  
'approve credit card good for bank?'

# Formalize the Learning Problem

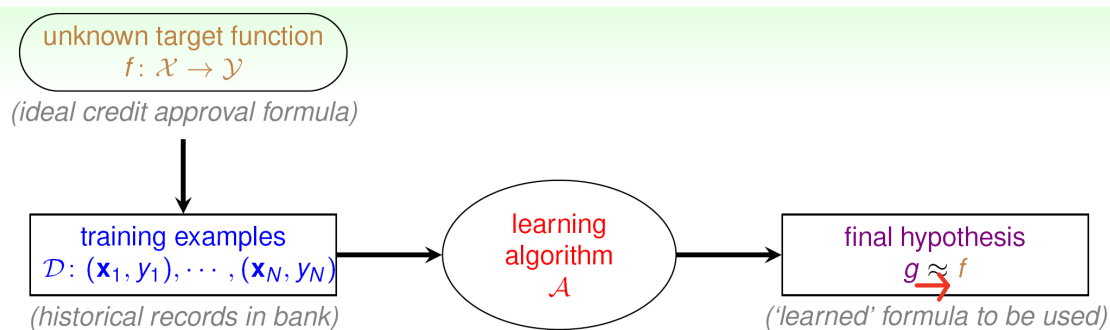


## Basic Notations

- input:  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$  (customer application)
- output:  $y \in \mathcal{Y}$  (good/bad after approving credit card)
- unknown pattern to be learned  $\Leftrightarrow$  target function:  
 $f: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  (ideal credit approval formula)
- data  $\Leftrightarrow$  training examples:  $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_N, y_N)\}$   
(historical records in bank) 找出分類模型
- hypothesis  $\Leftrightarrow$  skill with hopefully good performance:  
 $g: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  ('learned' formula to be used)



# Learning Flow

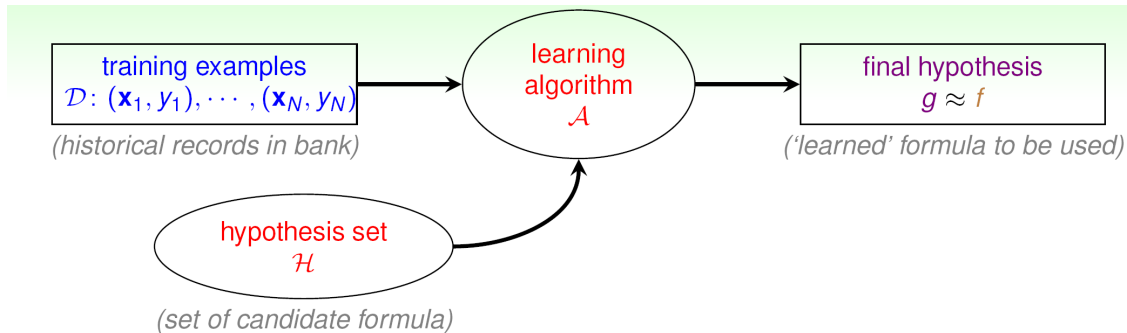


- target  $f$  **unknown**  
(i.e. no programmable definition)
- hypothesis  $g$  hopefully  $\approx f$   
but possibly **different** from  $f$   
(perfection ‘impossible’ when  $f$  unknown)

What does  $g$  look like?



# The Learning Model

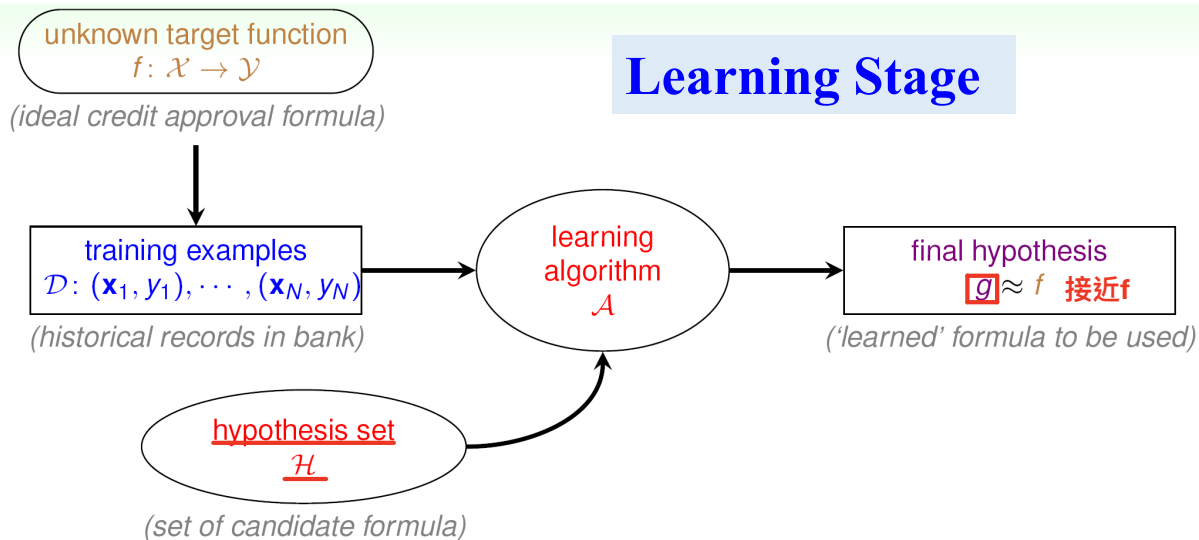


- assume  $g \in \mathcal{H} = \{h_k\}$ , i.e. approving if
  - $h_1$ : annual salary > NTD 800,000
  - $h_2$ : debt > NTD 100,000 (really?)
  - $h_3$ : year in job  $\leq 2$  (really?)
- hypothesis set  $\mathcal{H}$ :
  - can contain **good or bad hypotheses**
  - up to  $\mathcal{A}$  to pick the 'best' one as  $g$

找出g最接近f

**learning model** =  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$

# Practical Definition of Machine Learning



machine learning:  
use data to compute hypothesis  $g$   
that approximates target  $f$

# Practical Definition of Machine Learning

## Testing Stage



**machine learning**: acquiring skill  
with experience accumulated/**computed** from data



# Fun Time

How to use the four sets below to form a learning problem for song recommendation?

$$\mathcal{S}_1 = [0, 100]$$

$$\mathcal{S}_2 = \text{all possible (userid, songid) pairs 所有可能組合}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_3 = \text{all formula that 'multiplies' user factors \& song factors, indexed by all possible combinations of such factors 所有可能公式}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_4 = \text{1,000,000 pairs of ((userid, songid), rating) 評分}$$

①  $\mathcal{S}_1 = \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{S}_2 = \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{S}_3 = \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{S}_4 = \mathcal{D}$

②  $\mathcal{S}_1 = \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{S}_2 = \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{S}_3 = \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{S}_4 = \mathcal{D}$

③  $\mathcal{S}_1 = \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{S}_2 = \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{S}_3 = \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{S}_4 = \mathcal{X}$

④  $\mathcal{S}_1 = \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{S}_2 = \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{S}_3 = \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{S}_4 = \mathcal{H}$

Reference Answer: ②

$$\mathcal{S}_4 \xrightarrow{\mathcal{A} \text{ on } \mathcal{S}_3} (g: \mathcal{S}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{S}_1)$$

# Machine Learning and Data Mining

## Machine Learning

use data to compute hypothesis  $g$   
that approximates target  $f$

## Data Mining

找出有趣特性

use **(huge)** data to find property  
that is interesting

- if 'interesting property' **same as** 'hypothesis that approximate target'  
— **ML = DM** (usually what KDDCup does)  
假設有相關
- if 'interesting property' **related to** 'hypothesis that approximate target'  
— DM can help ML, and **vice versa** (often, but not always)
- traditional DM also focuses on **efficient computation in large database**

difficult to distinguish ML and DM in reality

# Data Mining 實例

- 英國倫敦基金公司Derwent Capital Markets於2011年曾利用Twitter上發表的推文去統計大眾情緒以預測股市走勢，因此在當年全球市場低迷之時，還能維持1.85%的報酬率，和S&P500下跌了2.2%的指數相比，領先許多。
- 美國零售商Target利用公司內部所擁有的消費者購買資料進行分析，並由此去預測消費者的行為—例如預測孕婦在懷孕初、中期大概會想購買甚麼樣的物品；然後當消費者在網路上購買了某一項產品，系統就會自動提供更多其可能會感興趣的產品資訊。
  - 當時Target寄送了孕婦用品廣告到有可能購買的消費者家中，其中一位收到廣告的孩子父親非常生氣，特地跑到Target去理論，認為自己女兒不需要這種產品，為何賣場要寄這種「有辱名節」的嫌疑廣告；結果事後才發現女兒是真的懷孕了。這個有意思的例子就是「可以比爸爸更早知道女兒懷孕」的資料探勘。

# Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence

## Machine Learning

use data to compute hypothesis  $g$   
that approximates target  $f$

## Artificial Intelligence

compute **something**  
**that shows** **intelligent behavior**

- $g \approx f$  is something that shows intelligent behavior  
— **ML can realize AI**, among other routes
- e.g. chess playing
  - traditional AI: game tree
  - ML for AI: 'learning from board data'

ML is one possible route to realize AI

# Machine Learning and Statistics

## Machine Learning

use data to compute hypothesis  $g$   
that approximates target  $f$

## Statistics

use data to **make inference** 推論  
**about an unknown process**

- $g$  is an inference outcome;  $f$  is something unknown  
—statistics **can be used to achieve ML**
- traditional statistics also focus on **provable results with math assumptions**, and care less about computation

較未考量計算量

statistics: many useful tools for ML



# Summary

## Lecture 1: The Learning Problem

- What is Machine Learning  
**use data to approximate target**
- Applications of Machine Learning  
**almost everywhere**
- Components of Machine Learning  
*A takes  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  to get  $g$*
- Machine Learning and Other Fields  
**related to DM, AI and Stats**