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Intro to Data Science



Learning Objectives & Agenda

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Learning objectives



Be able to

- Describe data science and explain its different facets
- Explain the differences between statistics and machine learning
- Explain the major branches of machine learning and the types of problems they solve
- Describe special topics within data science

Agenda



1. A Brief History of Data Science
2. Basics of Data Science
3. Analytics and Statistics
4. Statistics and Machine Learning
5. Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence
6. Special Topics
7. Course Structure



A BRIEF HISTORY OF DATA SCIENCE

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Definition



Data science is the practice of extracting useful and actionable information from data, which is then used to create value

This is achieved through a combination of analysis, statistics, machine learning, artificial intelligence, and programming

With these tools, we can use computers to answer questions and achieve results that were previously untenable





BASICS OF DATA SCIENCE

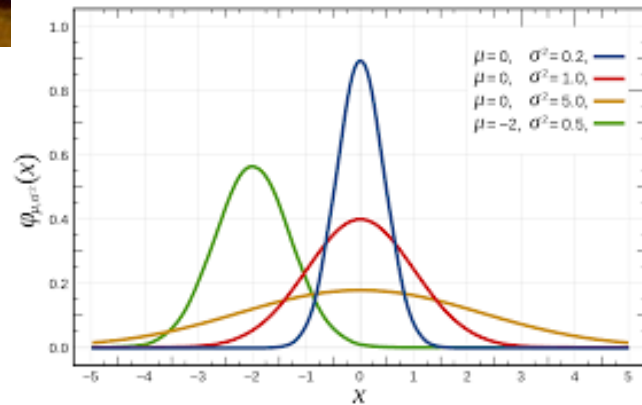
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Major Components



Analytics: the discovery of patterns in data and their application to decision making

Statistics: branch of mathematics focusing on uncovering meaning in data and randomness



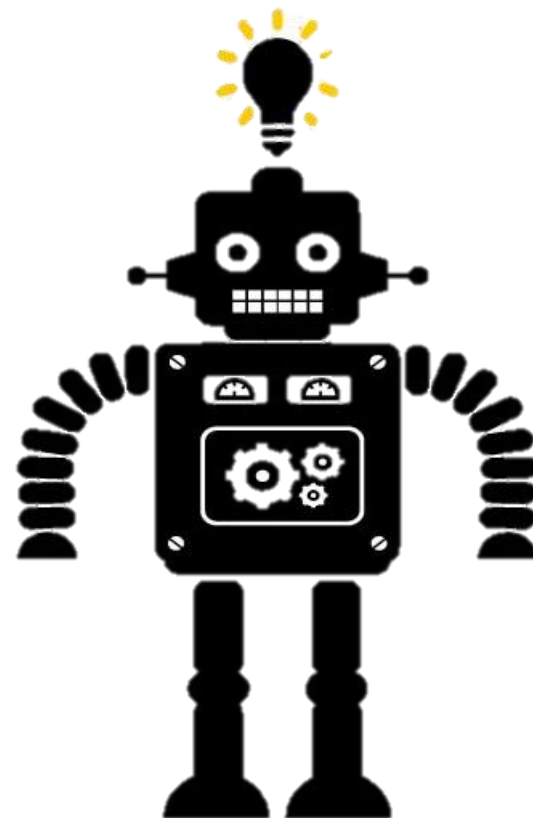
Major Components



Machine Learning: the study of algorithms and statistical models to improve task performance

Computer Science: the study of algorithms and computation

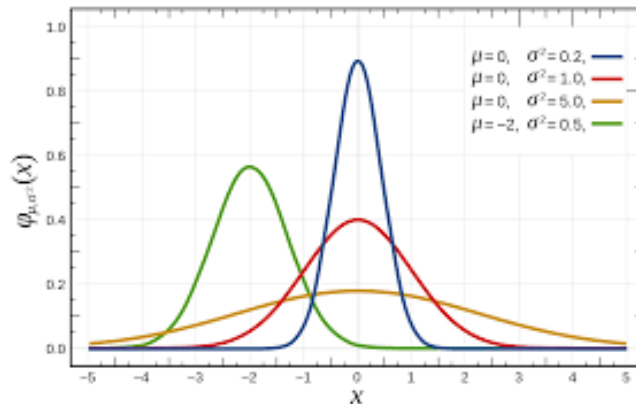
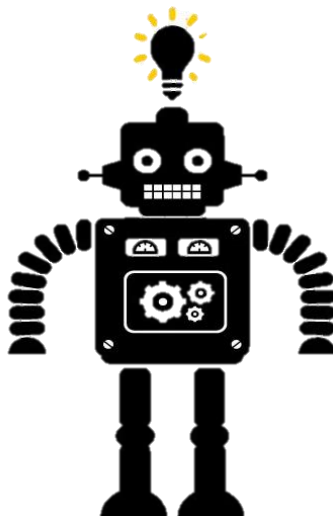
Artificial Intelligence (AI): No agreed upon definition



Major Components



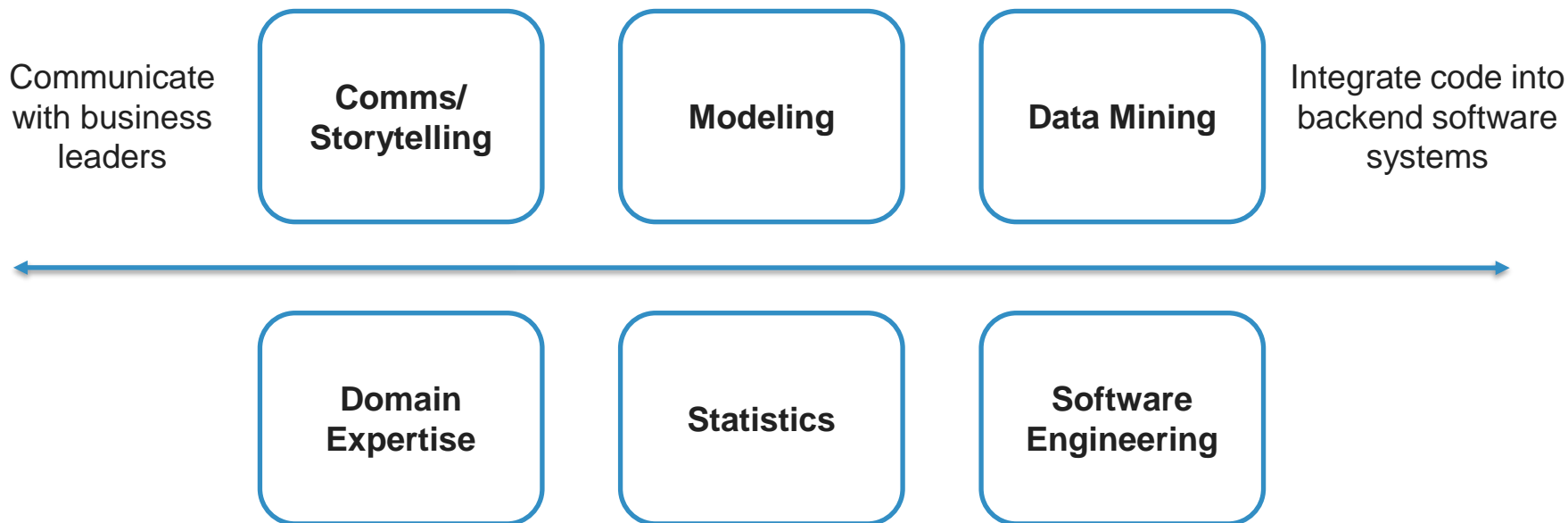
- There is no hard cut line between any of these components
- They cannot stand independent of each other



Data Science Team Skills



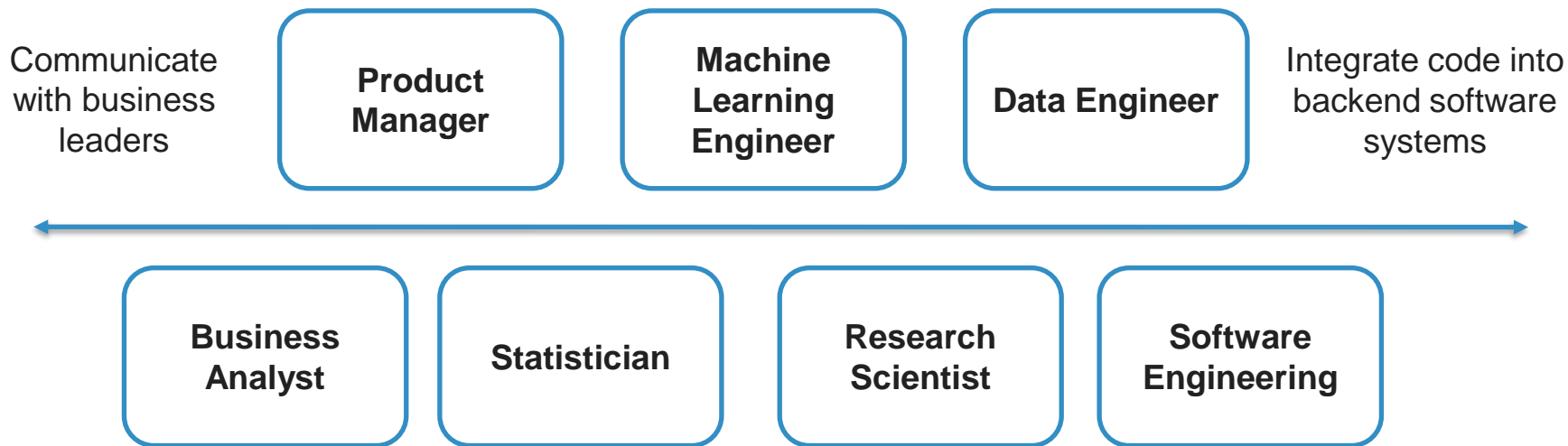
To be successful, data science teams need a variety of skills



Data Science Team Roles



To support the needed skills and achieve impact, data science teams need a diverse set of roles



Data Science Project Workflow



Data science projects have predictable steps, but iterate on and revisit them often

Problem Statement

What problem are you trying to solve?

Data Collection

What data do you need to solve it?

Data Exploration
& Preprocessing

Do you understand your data? Will your model?

Modeling

Build a model to solve your problem

Validation

Did I solve the problem?

Decision Making
& Deployment

Communicate to stakeholders or put into production



ANALYTICS & STATISTICS

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Types of Analytics Techniques



Descriptive: What *did* happen?

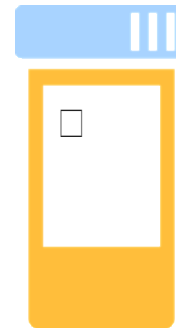
- Mean, median, distribution, max

Predictive: What *will* (likely) happen?

- Stock price prediction, estimated probability of churn

Prescriptive: What *should* we do?

- Pricing, resource allocation



Analytics



Answers direct, clear questions with deterministic answers

Monitors changes in business and informs decision makers

Leans heavily on business rules



Statistics

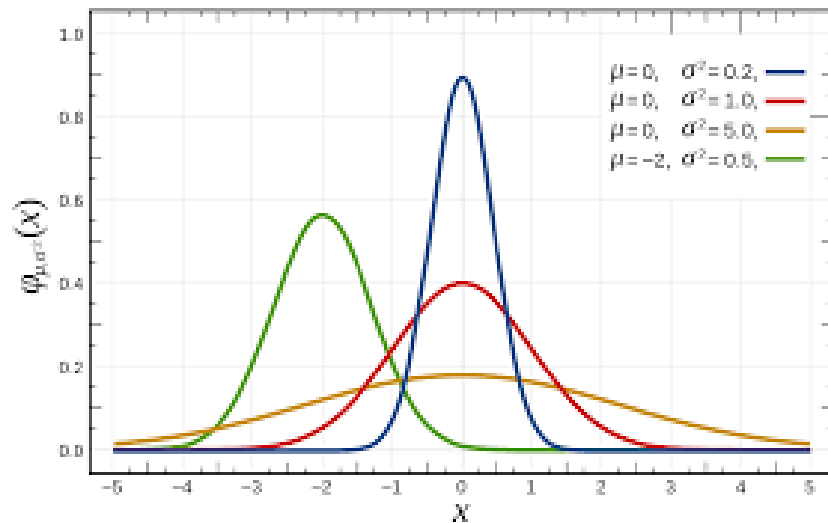


A field of mathematics dedicated to interpreting patterns in data and making inferences about them

Two major branches: frequentist (standard) and Bayesian (new & exciting)

Specialized subfields, e.g. time series analysis, experimental design

"Backbone" of modern science



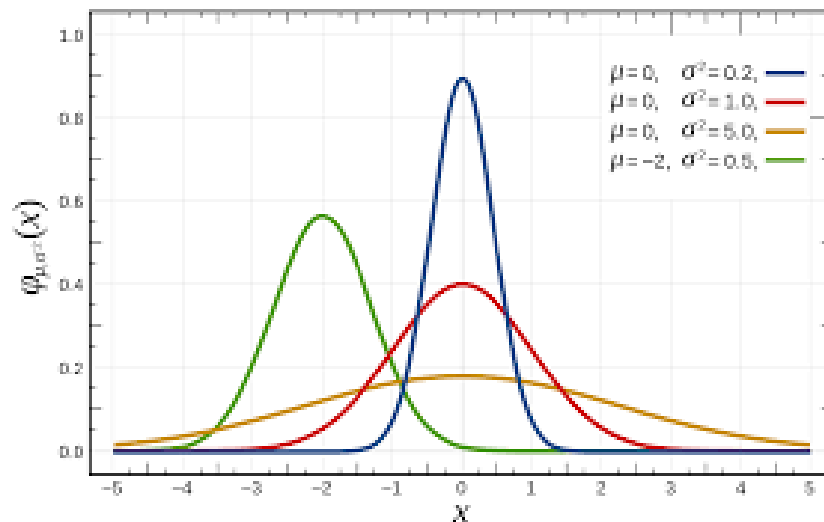
Statistics



Answers descriptive, predictive, and relationship questions

Probability and mathematical guarantees

Concerned with the *distribution* of numbers & metrics



STATISTICS & MACHINE LEARNING

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A Word to Statisticians

All models are
wrong,
but **some** are
useful"



A Word to Statisticians

from Larry A. Wasserman
author of *All of Statistics*

No Free Lunch .

MACHINE LEARNING & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

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Machine Learning (ML)



Machine learning allows computers to learn and infer from data

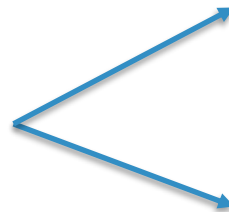
These programs learn from repeatedly seeing data, rather than being explicitly programmed by humans



*Emails are labeled as
spam vs. not*



*The more emails the
program sees...*



SPAM?

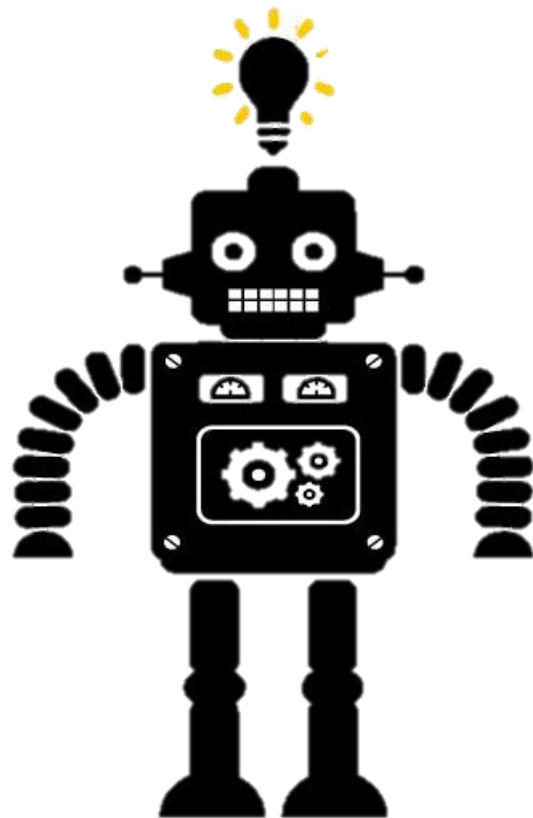
NOT SPAM?

*...the better it gets at
classification*

Machine Learning (ML)



- Algorithms and statistical models that enable computers to uncover patterns in data
- High overlap with statistics; some classic statistical models are also referred to as machine learning models, e.g. linear regression
- Two main branches of algorithms: **supervised and unsupervised**



Machine Learning



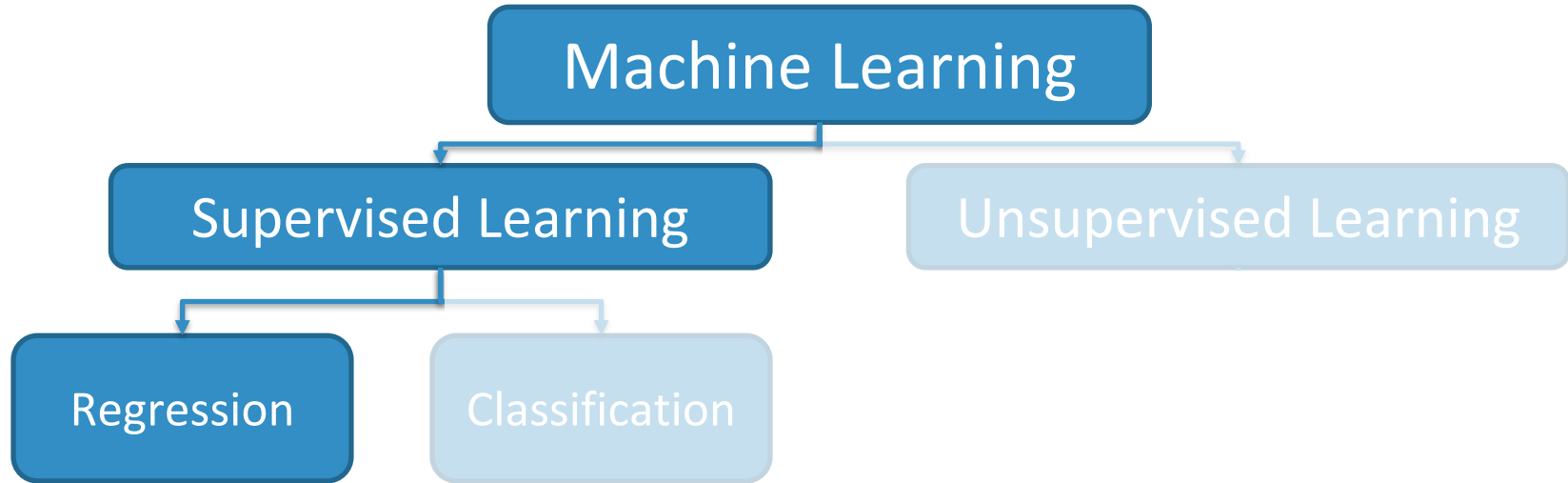
Supervised Learning



Supervised Learning

- Machine learning with **labels**
- Label: also known as target, y , output, class
- Two major flavors: **regression** and **classification**

Machine Learning



Supervised Learning: Regression



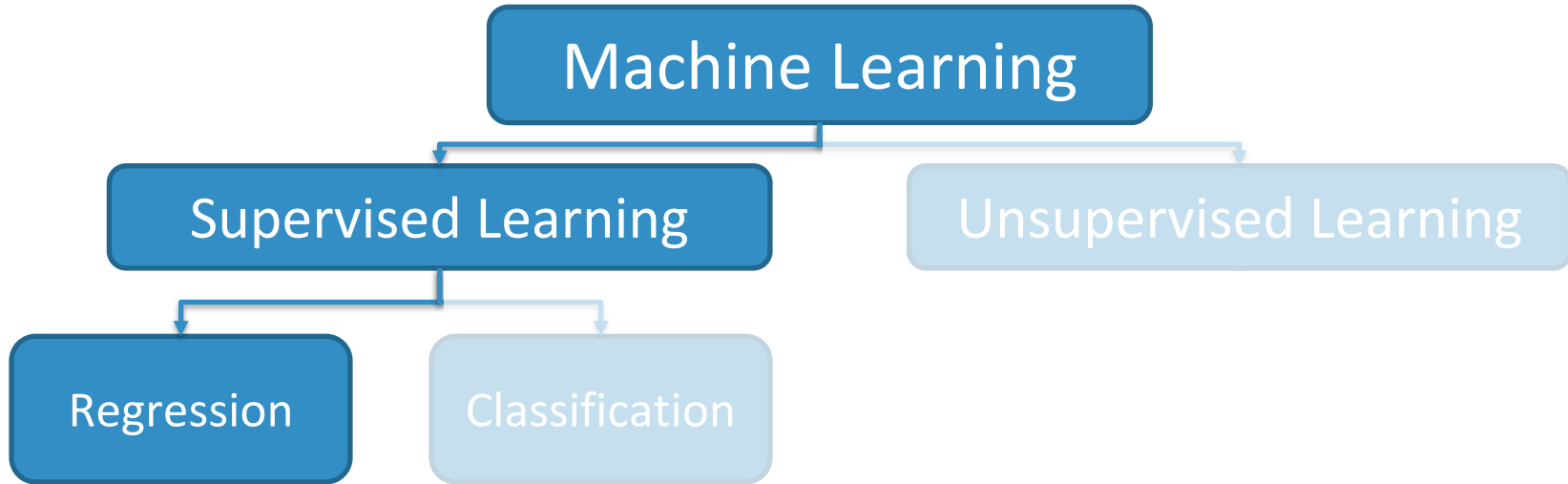
Answers questions like:

- How much profit will we make next year?
- How long will a reader stay on our site?

Applications: demand forecasting, predicting stock prices, customer lifetime value

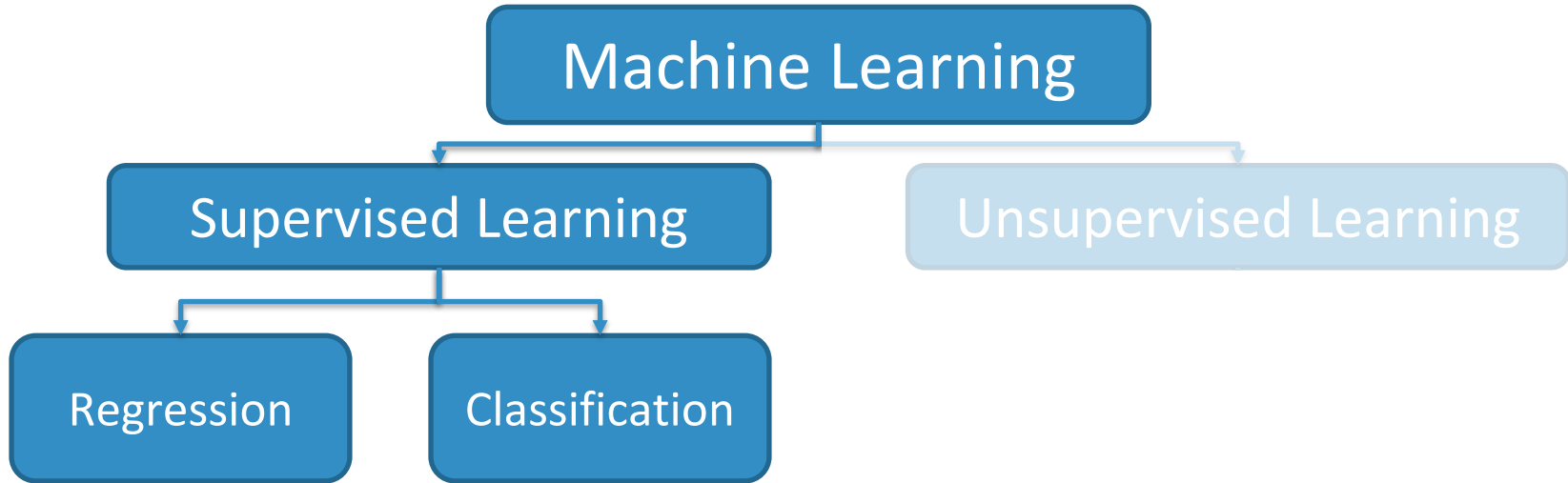


Machine Learning



- Demand forecasting
- Lifetime value

Machine Learning



- Demand forecasting
- Lifetime value

Supervised Learning: Classification



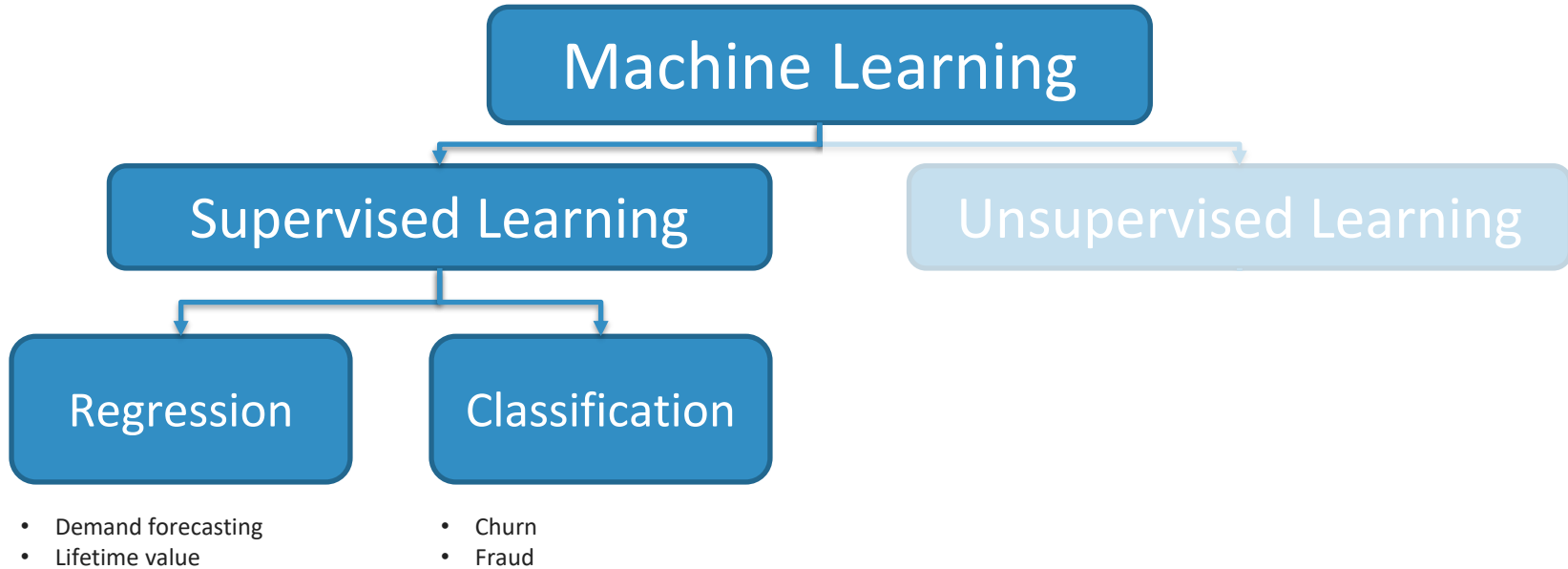
Labels are class or group, e.g. 1 or 0, “churned” or “not churned”

Linear and nonlinear models

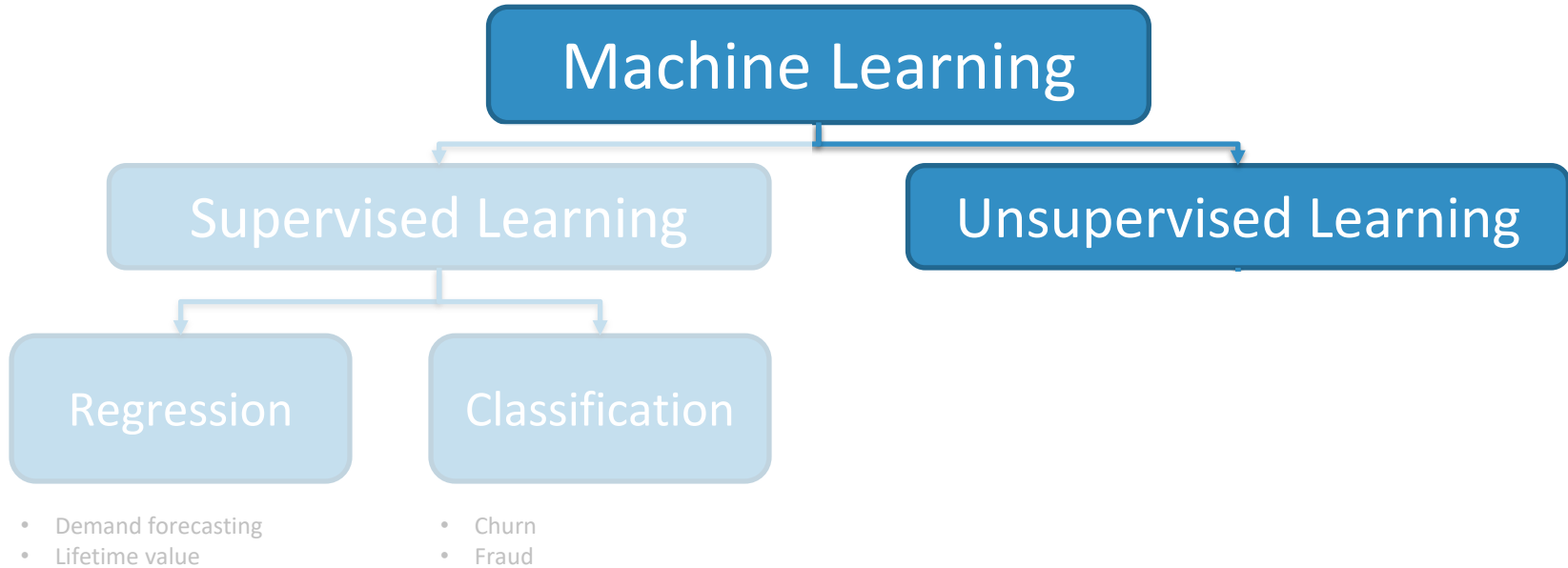
Algorithms include k-nearest neighbors, logistic regression, decision trees, SVMs



Machine Learning



Machine Learning



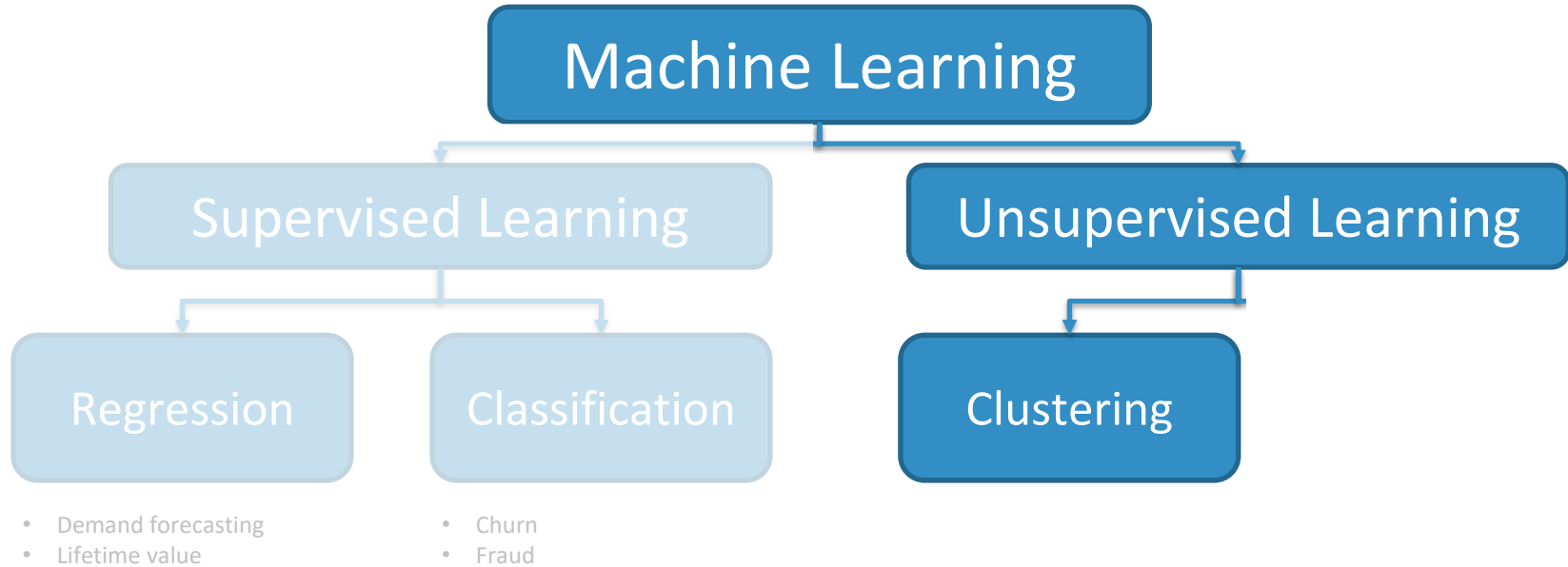
Unsupervised Learning



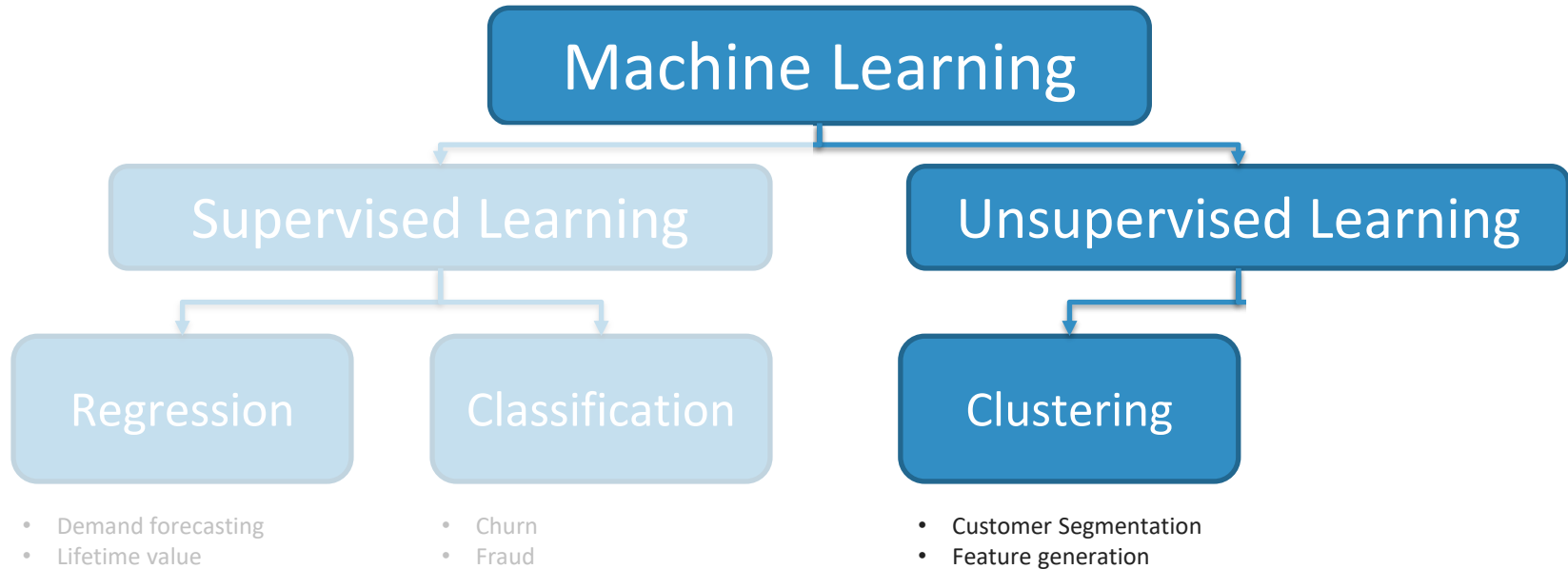
Unsupervised Learning

- Machine learning **without** labels
- Uncover the underlying structure of data
- Two major branches: **clustering** and **dimension reduction**

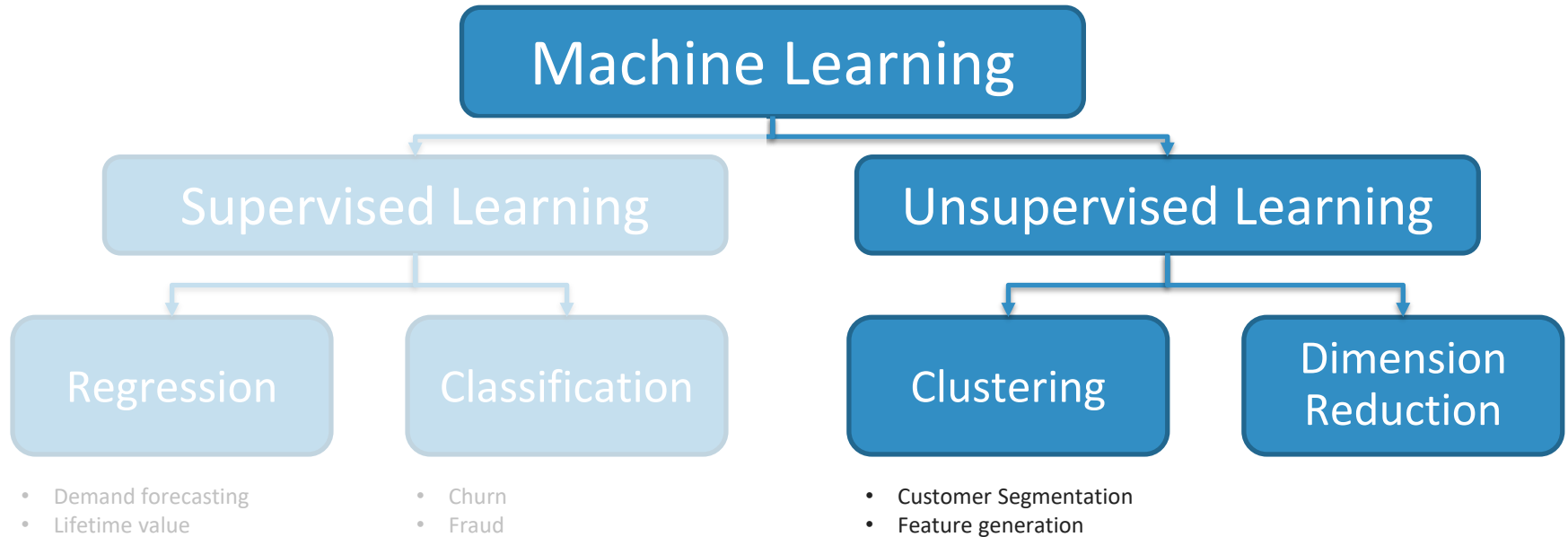
Machine Learning



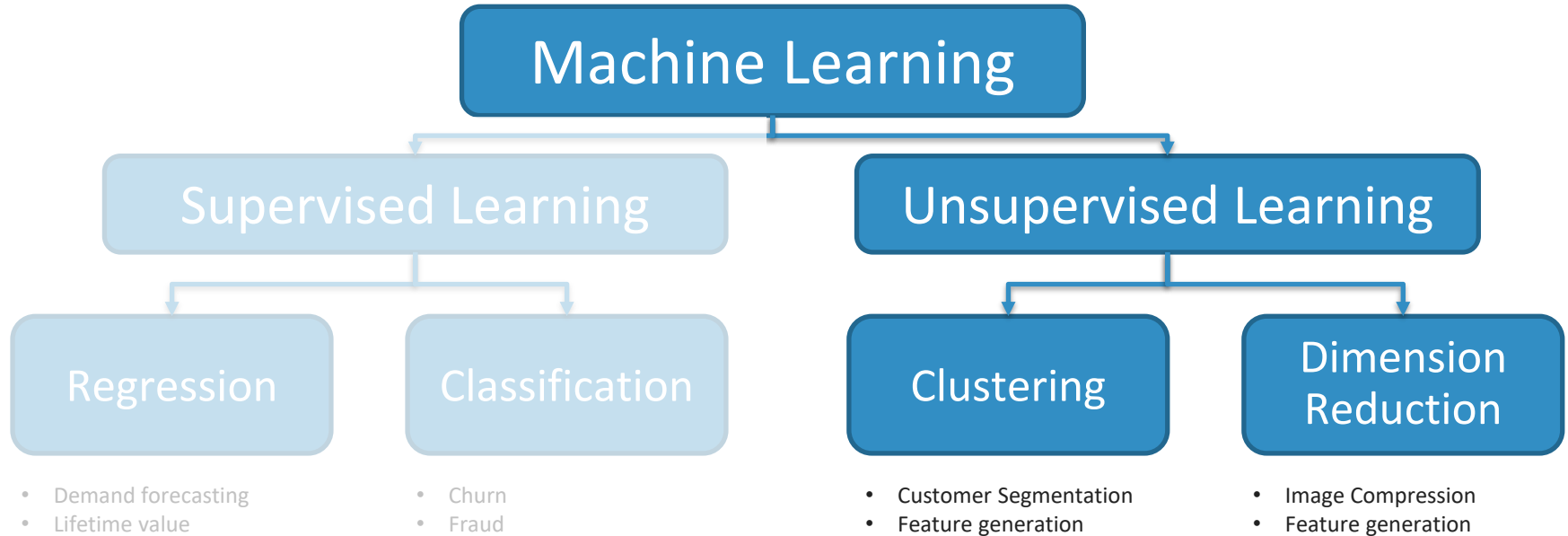
Machine Learning



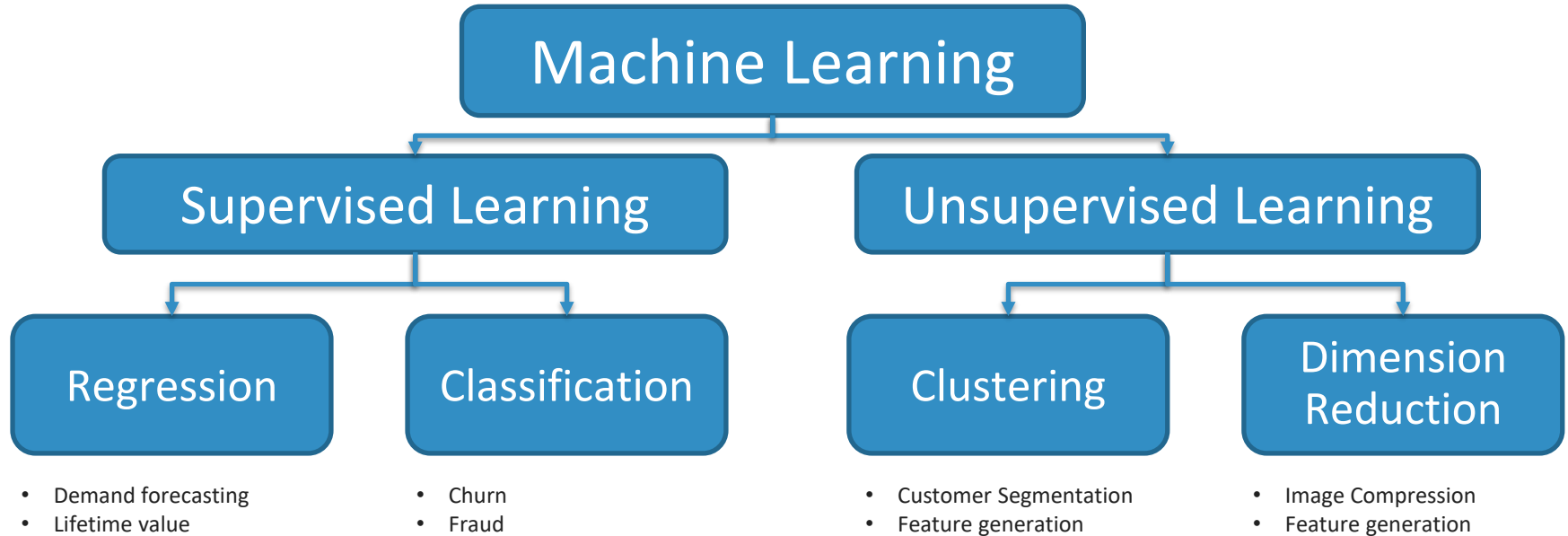
Machine Learning



Machine Learning



Machine Learning





SPECIAL TOPICS

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Special Topics



A/B Testing: running an “experiment” to test two (or more) alternatives against each other

- Common in marketing and online sales
- Everyday application: button color testing

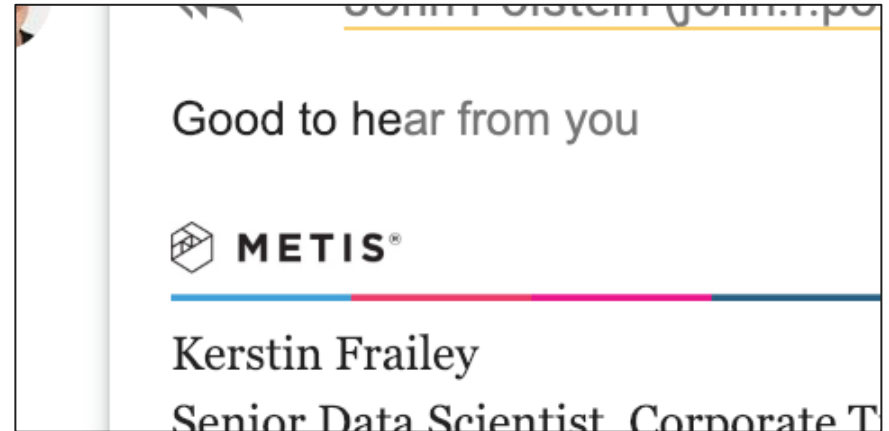


Special Topics



NLP (Natural Language Processing): analysis of human language by computers; machine learning and AI applied to text

- Methods: sentiment analysis, topic modelling, etc.
- Everyday application: autocomplete,



Special Topics



Time Series Analysis: applying statistical and machine learning techniques to find patterns in and predict with time-indexed data

- Common in financial markets
- Everyday application: demand forecasting



Special Topics



Neural Network: a type of machine learning vaguely inspired by the workings of neurons in a brain; composed of an input layer, output layer, and “hidden” layers

Deep Learning: a type of neural net with many hidden layers

- Common in image recognition, NLP
- Everyday application: speech recognition

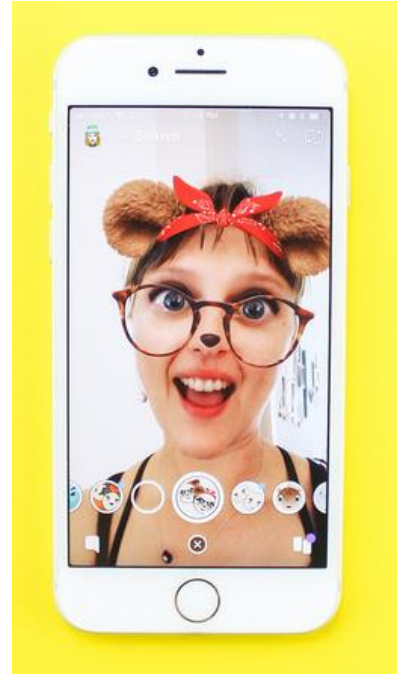


Special Topics



Computer Vision: a field of study on how computers can gain information about an environment through images

- Machine learning and neural networks are often applied for image recognition
- Everyday application: goofy video filters



Special Topics



Bayesian Statistics: a theory in statistics which takes the approach that probability expresses a “degree of belief”

- Results in different assumptions and underlying math
- Machine learning methods
naïve Bayes

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$$



Course Structure

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Course Structure



- **Module 1: Basic Python & Math (weeks 1 and 2)**
- **Module 2: Exploratory Data Analysis (weeks 3 and 4)**
- **Module 3: Regression (weeks 5 and 6)**
- **Module 4: Classification (weeks 7 and 8)**
- **Module 5: Unsupervised Learning & NLP (weeks 9 and 10)**
- **Module 6: Deep Learning (weeks 11 and 12)**



Recap

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Learning objectives



Be able to

- Describe data science and explain its different facets
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Takeaways



- Data science means different things at different places, but it generally involves, analytics, statistics, machine learning, artificial intelligence, and programming.
- Supervised and unsupervised learning are the two main branches of machine learning
- Statistics and machine learning have a large overlap
- Artificial Intelligence is not well defined



QUESTIONS?

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