

Regression vs Classification

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Regression vs. classification

A **regression** model predicts continuous values. For example, regression models make predictions that answer questions like the following:

- What is the value of a house in California?
- What is the probability that a user will click on this ad?

A **classification** model predicts discrete values. For example, classification models make predictions that answer questions like the following:

- Is a given email message spam or not spam?
- Is this an image of a dog, a cat, or a hamster?

Key Characteristics of Classification Problems:

1. **Discrete Output:** The output variable or target variable is categorical in nature, not continuous.
2. **Predefined Classes:** The classes or categories into which the data points are to be classified are known and fixed before training the model.
3. **Training with Labeled Data:** The algorithm learns from a dataset where each data point is accompanied by a label indicating its class.

Example Scenarios:

- **Email Spam Detection:** Classify incoming emails as "spam" or "not spam" based on content and characteristics.
- **Medical Diagnosis:** Predict whether a patient has a particular disease based on test results, and patient characteristics.
- **Handwriting Recognition:** Identify handwritten digits (0-9) based on scanned images.

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