







Big picture: Econometrics vs Machine Learning



What are we trying to do as a researcher?



Solve real world problems, right?



Is there a theory?

What is the relationship between

- Sales and advertisement / R&D expenditure / seasonality / industry / ...?
- Quantity demanded and price / income / technology / price of competitors / ... ?
- Wage and education/ age/ gender/ experience/ ...?







A simple example

- Quantifying wage components! (is there a theory?)
- What are the drivers:
 - Education, age, experience, IQ, ...
 - Ethnicity, race, gender, ...
 - Industry, location, working hours, ...
- Let's build a model (assuming a linear functional form!)



$$wage = \beta_0 + \beta_1 educ + \beta_2 age + \beta_3 exper + \beta_4 IQ + \dots + \beta_k hours + u$$

- ➤ Can you interpret this model? Do you care about the interpretability?
- ➤ Can you make predictions using your model?
- ➤ Can you make this functional form more flexible? What are the caveats?

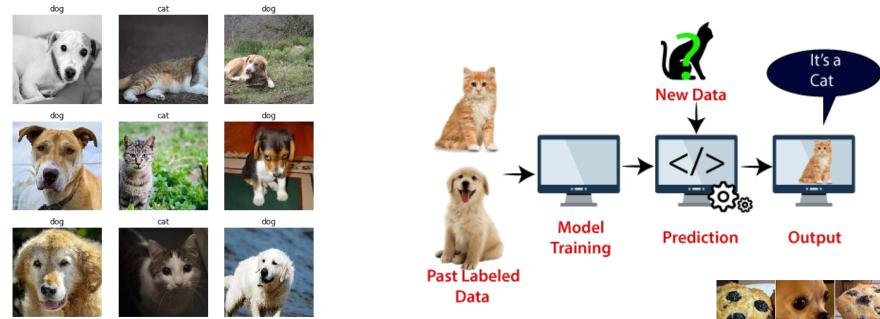






A different example

• Cat vs dog classification problem (image classification)



- ➤ Do you really care about interpretability of the model here?
- ➤ What about accuracy of your predictions?





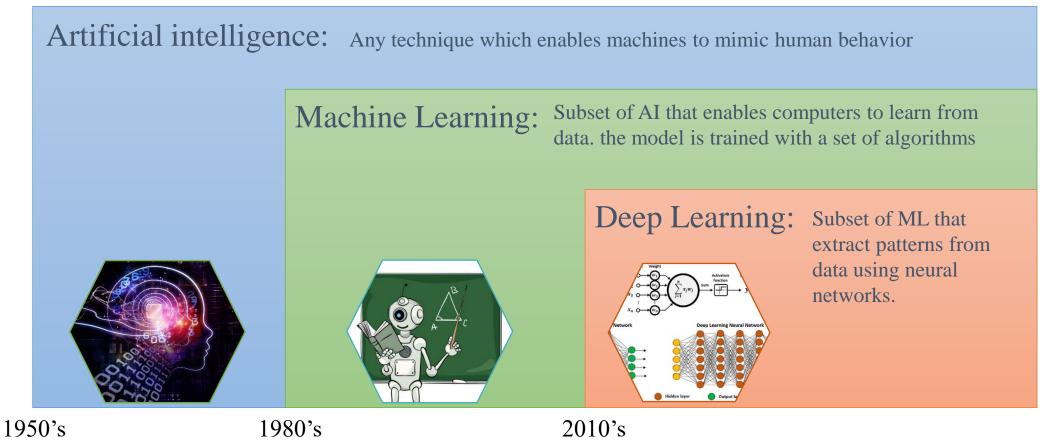




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Statistical learning vs machine learning

	Statistical Learning	Machine Learning / Deep Learning	
Focus	Hypothesis testing & interpretability	Predictive accuracy and extracting complex patterns	
Driver	Math, theory, hypothesis	Fitting data	
Data size	Any reasonable set	Big data	
Data type	Structured	Structured, unstructured, semi-structured	
Dimensions / scalability	Mostly low dimensional data	High dimensional data	
Strength	Understand causal relationship & behavior	Prediction (forecasting and nowcasting)	
Interpretability	High	Medium to Low	





Limitations of Econometrics/Structured ML

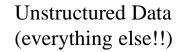
Econometrics/structured ML can only handle structured data (tabular data)!

Structured Data

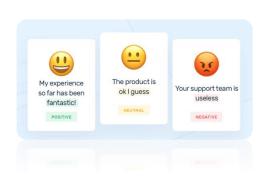
	Α	В	С	D	
1	Date	Account	Transaction Type	Amount	
2	2017-01-12	123	Credit	6089.78	
3	2017-01-12	123	Fee	9.99	
4	2017-01-12	456	Debit	1997	
5	2017-01-12	123	Debit	20996.12	
6	2017-01-13	123	Debit	17	
7	2017-01-13	123	Debit	914.36	
8	2017-01-14	789	Credit	11314	
9	2017-01-14	789	Fee	9.99	
10	2017-01-14	456	Debit	15247.89	
11	2017-01-14	123	Debit	671.28	
12	2017-01-15	456	Credit	5072.1	
13	2017-01-15	456	Fee	9.99	
14	2017-01-16	456	Debit	5109.07	
15	2017-01-19	123	Credit	482.01	



















A more complex example

Stock price prediction \$\$\$

- What are the classical drivers:
 - Company's fundamentals (balance sheet, income statement, cash flow statement)
 - Competitors (comparing multiples)
 - Technical analysis!
 - Seasonality (holidays, months, days, ...)



What else?

- Market sentiment (news, tweets, blogger opinions, conference calls, ...)
- Satellite images from parking lots!

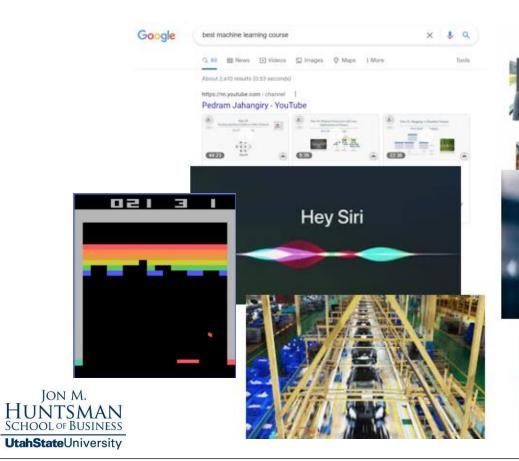






Why should I learn it?

- It's a bid deal, it is everywhere!
- Better career opportunities
- Hedge against next recession









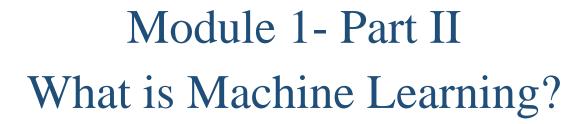


Class Modules

- Module 1- Introduction to Machine Learning
- Module 2- Setting up Machine Learning Environment
- Module 3- Linear Regression (Econometrics approach)
- Module 4- Machine Learning Fundamentals
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- Module 6- Penalized Regression (Ridge, LASSO, Elastic Net)
- Module 7- Logistic Regression
- Module 8- K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN)
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- Module 12- Clustering (KMeans Hierarchical)











Supervised

- Regression
- Classification



Unsupervised

- Clustering
- Anomaly detection
- Dimensionality reduction



Semi-supervised



Self-supervised



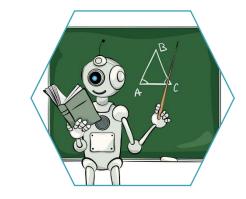
Reinforcement Learning

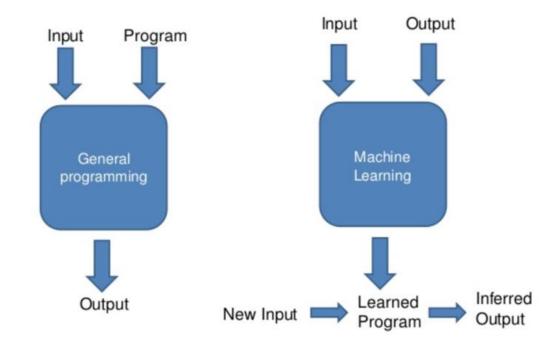






General programming vs Machine learning





• Machine Learning: Involves automated detection of meaningful patterns in data and apply the pattern

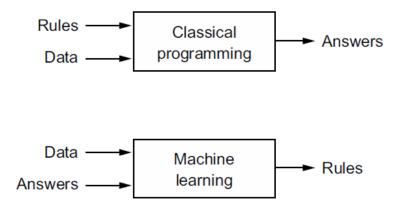






What is Machine Learning?

- A machine learning system is **trained** (with algorithms) rather than explicitly **programmed**.
- Machine Learning is a subset of AI that enables computers to learn from data.
- ML involves automated detection of meaningful patterns in data and apply the pattern to make predictions on unseen data!
- This is done by minimizing the loss on the training data.
- The goal is to maximize the performance on the unseen data.





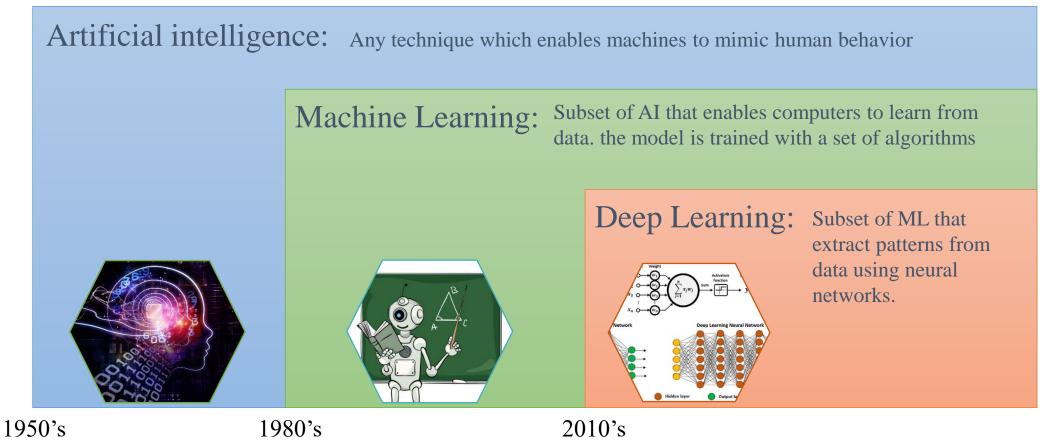




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Types of Machine Learning



Supervised

- Regression
- Classification



Unsupervised

- Clustering
- Anomaly detection
- Dimensionality reduction



Semi-supervised



Self-supervised









Supervised Learning

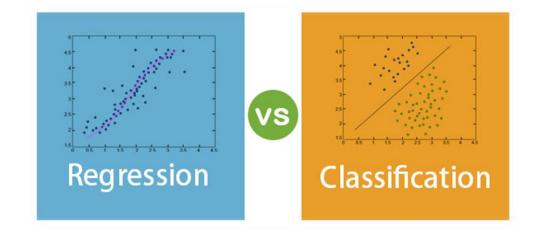
- Supervised learning is a type of machine learning where the algorithm is trained on labeled data.
- The data is labeled, meaning that the data has been tagged with the correct output.
- The model is then able to learn the relationship between the input data and the corresponding output labels and can make predictions on new data.

• Regression:

- Predicting housing price
- Predicting stock market returns

• Classification:

- Generating buy, sell, hold signals.
- Predicting credit default rate.







Class exercise

• Can you think of an example of Regression? Classification?

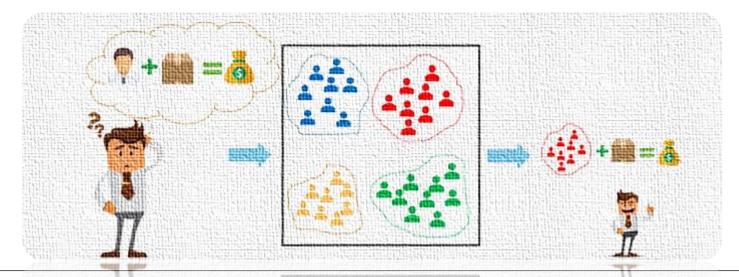






Unsupervised Learning

- Unsupervised learning is a type of machine learning where the algorithm is not given any labeled training data.
- The goal is to discover the underlying patterns and find groups of samples that behave similarly. Find something interesting!
- Clustering: group similar data points together
 - ✓ Mall customer segmentation
 - ✓ Client profiling and asset allocation









Unsupervised Learning

- Unsupervised learning is a type of machine learning where the algorithm is not given any labeled training data.
- Anomaly detection: Find anomalies (unusual data points)
 - ✓ Fraud detection
- Dimensionality Reduction: compress data in lower dimension
 - ✓ Identify the most predictive factors underlying asset price models.











Class exercise

• Can you think of an example of Clustering? Anomaly detection?

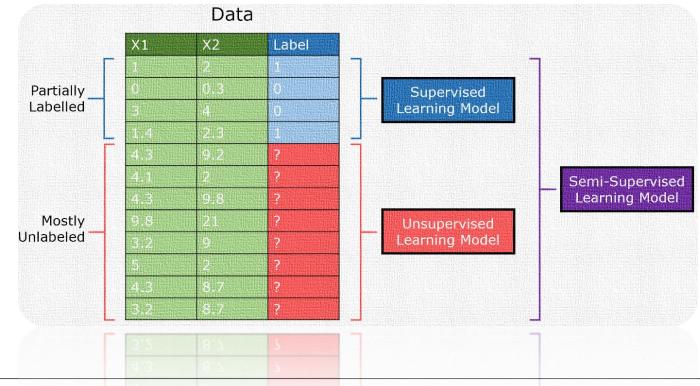






Semi-Supervised

- Semi-supervised learning is a combination of supervised and unsupervised learning.
- It's used when you have a large dataset with some labeled examples and many unlabeled examples.
- The goal is to use the labeled examples to learn a mapping from inputs to outputs, and then use that mapping to make predictions on the unlabeled examples (pseudo labels)









Self-Supervised

- Self-supervised learning is a type of unsupervised learning, but it has the property that the learning process is being fed with the data itself (and not a human annotation).
- The goal of self-supervised learning is learning useful representations from the data (representation learning)
- The model learns a representation of the data by predicting properties of the input data itself.
- Example:
 - Predicting missing part of an input (text, image, ...)



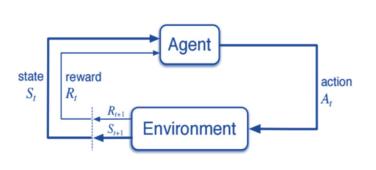


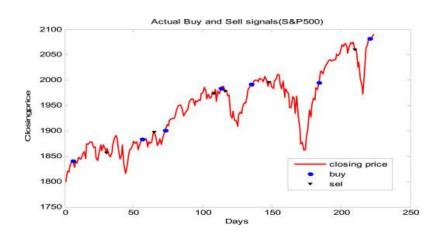




Reinforcement Learning

- Reinforcement learning is a type of machine learning where an agent learns to interact with its environment in order to maximize a reward.
- The agent receives rewards for performing actions that lead to successful outcomes and learns to repeat successful actions and avoid unsuccessful ones. (Explore and Exploit)





• Example: a virtual trader (agent) who follows certain trading rules (actions) in a specific market (environment) to maximize its profits (reward).







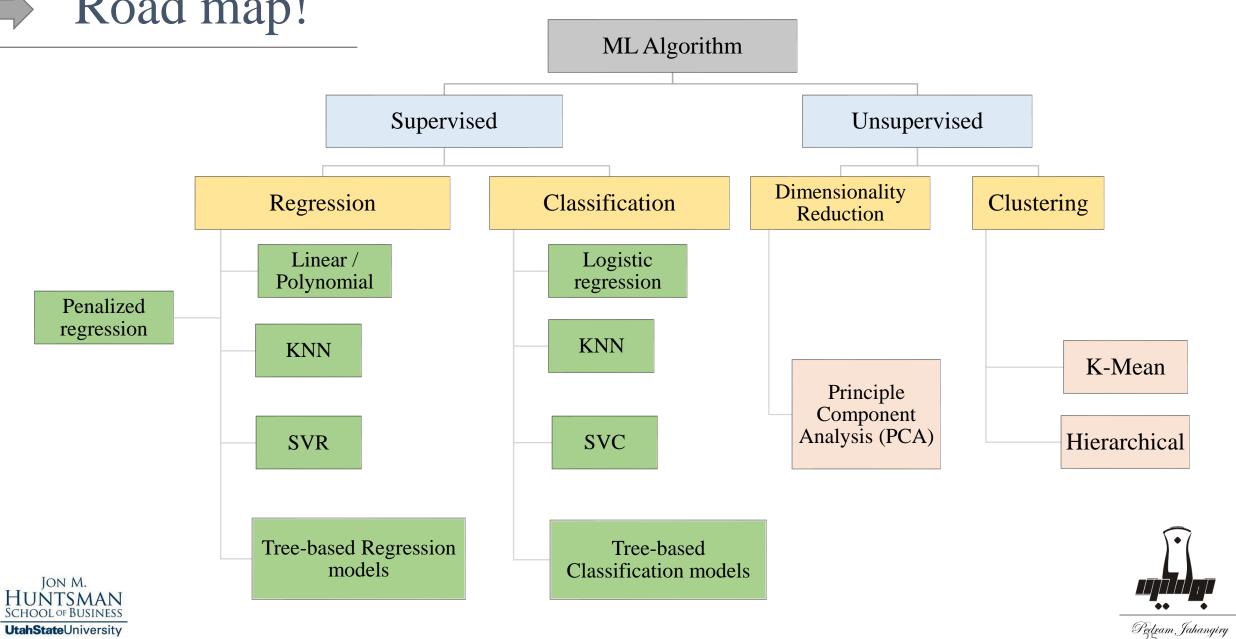
Class exercise

• Can you think of an example of reinforcement learning?





Road map!





What's on GitHub

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Having said that...

• Warning: A ML algorithm will always find a pattern, even if there is none.

