

MACHINE LEARNING IN SYSTEMS BIOLOGY I (UNSUPERVISED)

Jonas Pleyer

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Freiburg Center for Data Analysis and Modeling (FDM)

INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS MACHINE LEARNING?

'A computer program is said to learn from experience E with respect to some class of tasks T and performance measure P if its performance at tasks in T , as measured by P , improves with experience E '

- Tom M. Mitchell [Mit97]

HISTORY OF MACHINE LEARNING

- 1943 First publication of neural network [MP43]
- 1956 Dartmouth Summer Research Project (Birthplace of modern Machine Learning)
- 1965 Nilson Machine Learning for pattern classification [Nil65]
- 1966 Following years: Many setbacks in Artificial Intelligence called 'AI-Winters'
- 1995 Support Vector Machines are first introduced
- 2002 Torch first release (open source library)
- 2006 Geoffrey Hinton coins 'Deep Learning' [HOT06]
- >2006 Companies such as Netflix, Facebook, Microsoft, Google fund projects/prizes in and use machine learning/artificial intelligence

Machine learning techniques follow a similar workflow.

1. Define Problem (scope, feasibility)
2. Gather Data (assumptions, constraints)
3. Pre-process Data (cleanup, drop)
4. Analyze Data (define features, find correlations)
5. Prepare Data (transform, normalize, drop)
6. Evaluate Models (train/test, classify/regress)
7. Tune Model (cross validation, fine tune parameters)
8. Apply model to problems, learn more

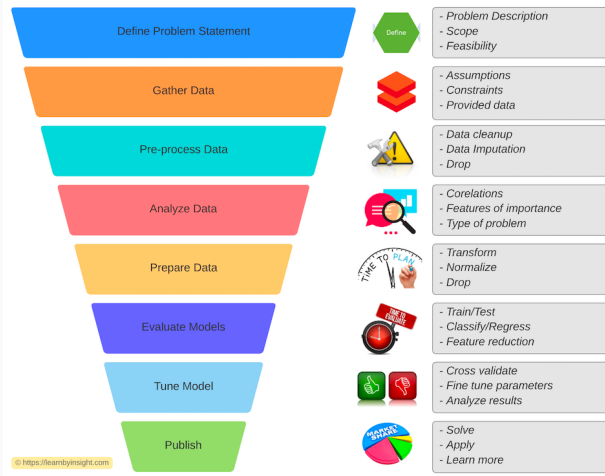


Figure 1: Machine Learning workflow [Mew20]

CONCEPTS

Supervised

- ▶ Fit model to labelled data (ie. with 'ground truth')
- ▶ Data is usually obtained experimentally or assigned by humans
- ▶ Previously labelled data can serve as testing set

Unsupervised

- ▶ Data does not contain any labels (only inputs)
- ▶ Find structure in data (clustering, grouping)

Semi-supervised

- ▶ Combine partly labeled data with partly unlabeled data
- ▶ Can have huge performance benefits compared to unsupervised learning

- ▶ Classification: Assign datapoints discrete categories (eg. cancerous, non-cancerous). Algorithms are called 'classifiers'.
If discrete categories are mutually exclusive, we call them 'classes', otherwise 'labels'.
- ▶ Regression: Output continuous values (eg. predict free energy of protein system).
- ▶ Classification problems can also be solved with regression and thresholds/binning.
- ▶ Clustering: Predict groupings of similar datapoints.

- ▶ Loss or Cost function:
Measure deviation to ground truth in supervised learning.
Implemented similarly in unsupervised situations.
- ▶ Parameters: Part of the model, will be adjusted by learning process of the model.
- ▶ Hyperparameters: Not part of the model but control learning process (eg. learning rate, number of iterations)
- ▶ Training: describes process of iterative learning and adjusting the parameters of the model to obtain better performance. Minimize the loss/cost-function.
- ▶ Validation: Use separate dataset to test model.

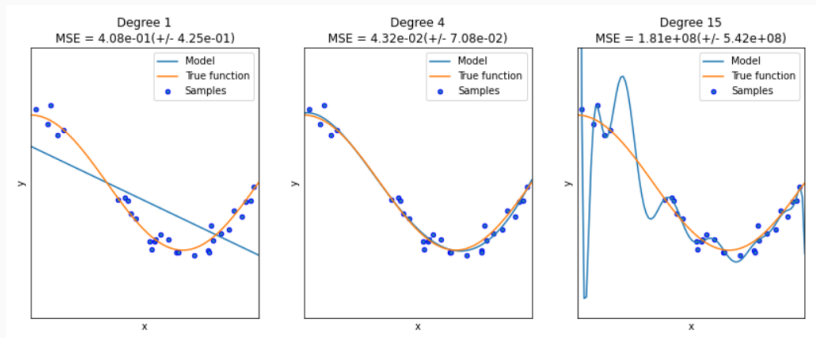


Figure 2: Underfitting, Optimal Fitting and Overfitting [Tri20]

- ▶ Inductive Bias: Set of assumptions.
Leads it to favour a particular type of solution over others.
Often programmed in mathematical model.
Example: Recurrent Neural Networks anticipate sequential dependencies
- ▶ Trade-off between bias and variance
Different inductive biases typically lead to better performance, but higher constraints on the model.
Lower bias makes fewer assumptions.
- ▶ Variance: How much does trained model change in response to training on different dataset.
- ▶ We want low bias and low variance.
- ▶ Low bias and low variance often conflict each other.
⇒ Need to balance between them

MACHINE LEARNING TECHNIQUES



BIOLOGY AGAIN

QUESTIONS?

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- [Nil65] Nils J. Nilsson. *Learning machines*. McGraw-Hill, 1965.
- [Tri20] Mayank Tripathi. Underfitting and overfitting in machine learning, 2020.