

Machine Learning, Coursera

Andrew Ng, Stanford

• Week 1

Machine Learning

- The science of getting computers to learn, without being explicitly programmed.
- To let the computer learn by experience
- The best way to do that is to try to mimic the human brain using what is called neural networks

• Examples

- 1- Google or Bing search engine which use machine learning for web crawler to rank the pages.
- 2- Apple or Facebook photo recognizing system is also using machine learning.
- 3- Spam Filter in your email is also done by machine learning.

• Applications

→ It has many many applications such as : medicine - finance - engineering --- etc

→ Database mining

- E.g., webclick data → used to improve the user experience
• medical records → used to understand disease better
• biology → help to understand and know more about genome

→ Applications can't program by hand:

Eg., Autonomous helicopter, handwriting recognition, most of NLP (Natural Language Processing), Computer Vision.

→ Self-Customizing programs

Amazon, Netflix product recommendations

Definitions

* Arthur Samuel:

The machine learning is the field of study that ^{gives} computers the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed

→ In 1950: Samuel made a program ~~for~~ the computer to learn checkers playing by experience from playing 10's of 1000's games against itself. Finally the program became a good player and ~~was~~ better than Samuel, the programmer himself.

* Tom Mitchel, 1998:

A Computer program is said to learn from experience (E), w.r.t some task (T) ~~and~~ some performance measure (P), if its performance improves with experience as measured by (P) (E)

→ for the checkers example

E: the experience of playing 10's of 1000's games

T: the task of playing checkers

P: the probability of winning games

Input (x)	output (y)	Application
email	spam? (0/1)	spam filtering
audio	text transcripts	speech Recognition
English	Spanish	Machine Translation
ad, user info	click? (0/1)	online Ads
image, radar info	position of other cars	self driving cars
image of phone	defect? (0/1)	visual inspection

Machine Learning Algorithms

① Supervised Learning [Common Type]

→ to teach the computer how to do something.

$(X \rightarrow Y)$
Mapping

② Unsupervised Learning

→ to let the computer learn by itself.

• Other types: Reinforcement Learning, Recommender Systems

Supervised Learning

Example

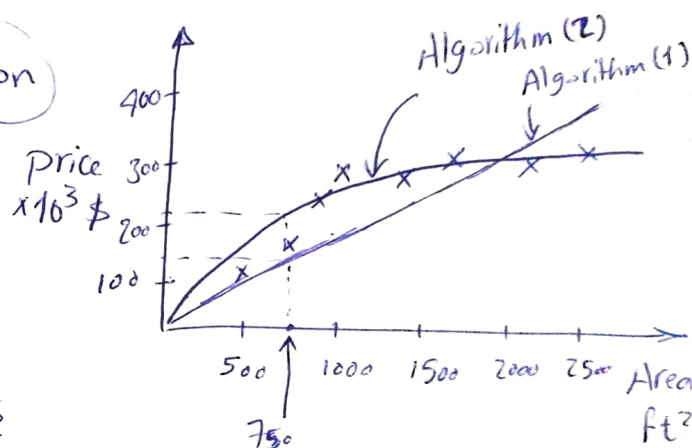
House pricing prediction

→ We give the algorithm a dataset, which is "right answers"

→ The task of the algorithm is just to produce more of these right answers

→ This is called Regression problem

↳ predict continuous valued output (predict a number)



Example

Breast Cancer (malignant, benign)

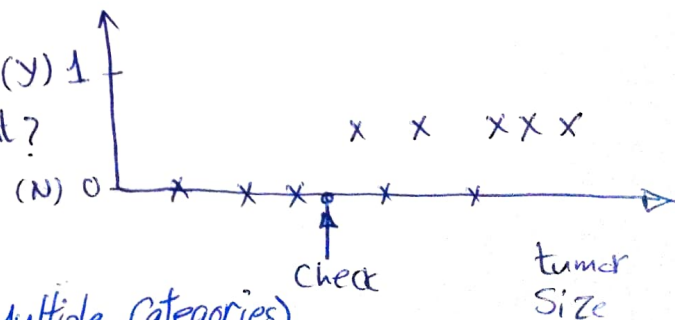
→ This is called Classification

Malignant?

Discrete Valued output (Zero or One)

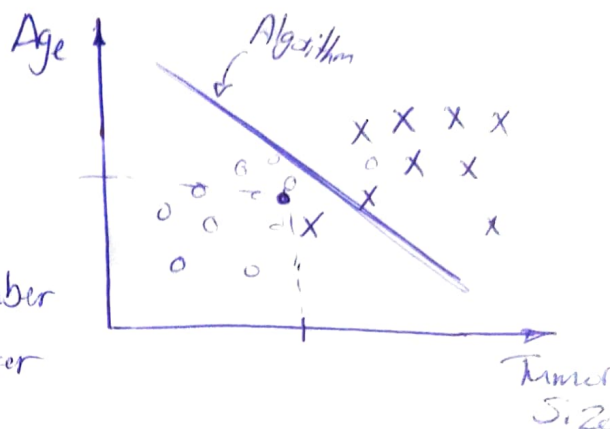
(may be more than two outputs) (Multiple Categories)

↳ predict a category



- In the previous example (Breast Cancer), we used one attribute (tumor size) to predict whether the tumor is benign or malignant.
- In other machine learning problems, we use more than one feature (attribute)

- Some problems may use an infinite number of features, and the point here is how to deal with very big number of attributes without your computer memory is running out?



• Unsupervised Learning

- Unlike supervised learning, where we give the algorithm some right answers or labeled examples, unsupervised learning depends on unlabeled examples [same label or no labels]
- An unsupervised learning algorithm may decide that the data lives in two different clusters. This is called Clustering

* Examples:

- Grouping new stories in Google news by Automatic Clustering
- Applying clustering algorithm on DNA microarray data to group individuals according to the degree of having a certain gene

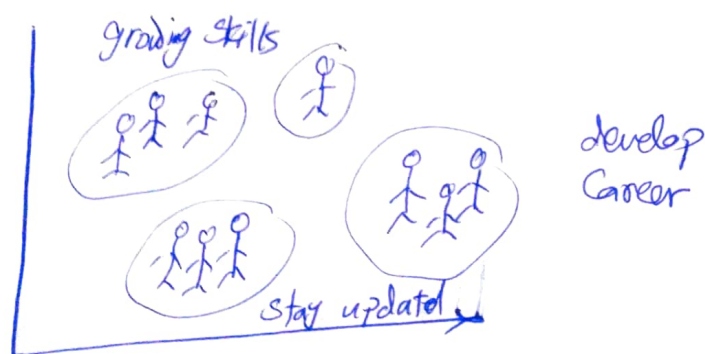
* Cocktail Party problem (Non-clustering Unsupervised Learning)



- Every microphone records the audios of the two speakers with different levels according to their distance.
- An algorithm using unsupervised learning can distinguish the two audios (Cocktail) and outputs two different outputs.
- This doesn't need tons of code lines, it may be done with one code line using the right environment.

* Grouping Customers

(Individuals join ML Courses)



unsupervised learning
[Find structure in data]

Clustering

group similar data points together

Anomaly Detection

find unusual data points

Dimensionality Reduction

compress data using fewer numbers