



Machine Learning Overview





- It is finally time to dive deep into Machine Learning!
- This Machine Learning Overview section is designed to help get us in the correct frame of mind for the paradigm shift to Machine Learning.
- First, let's quickly review where we are in the Machine Learning Pathway....





Problem to Solve



Question to Answer





Problem to Solve

How to fix or change X?

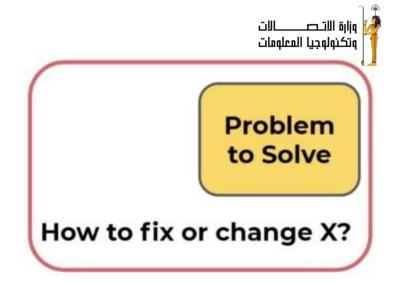


How does a change in X affect Y?







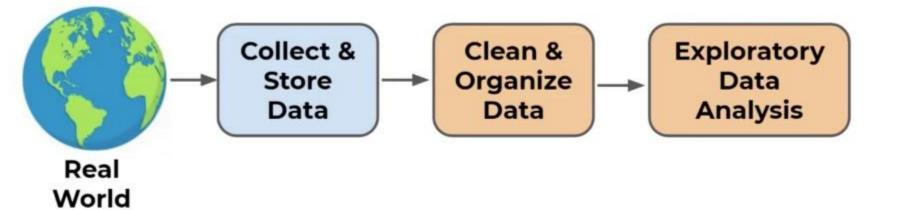


Question to Answer

How does a change in X affect Y?

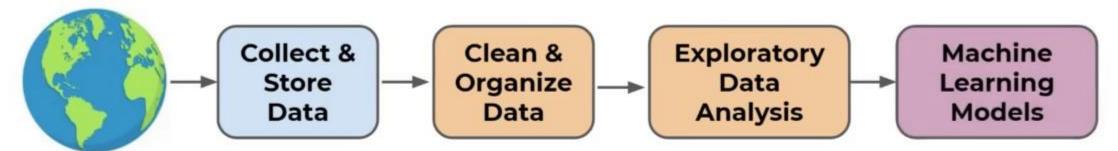












Real World

Supervised Learning:

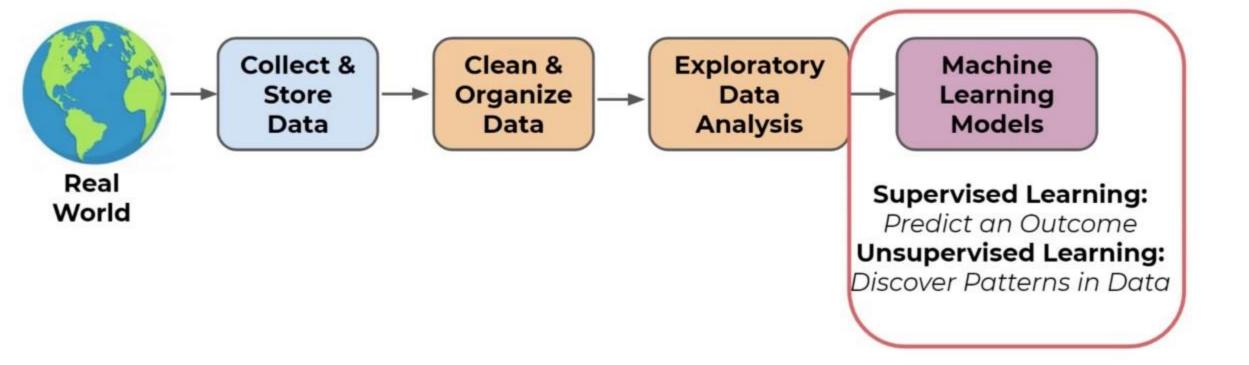
Predict an Outcome

Unsupervised Learning:

Discover Patterns in Data











- Our main goals in ML Overview section:
 - Problems solved by Machine Learning
 - Types of Machine Learning
 - Supervised Learning
 - Unsupervised Learning
 - ML Process for Supervised Learning
 - Discussion on Companion Book





- Our main goals in ML Overview section:
 - No coding in this section!
 - Purely a discussion on critically important ideas applied to ML problems.





- Many other relevant topics will be discussed later in the course as we "discover" them, including:
 - Bias-Variance Trade-off
 - Cross-validation
 - Feature Engineering
 - Scikit-learn
 - Performance Metrics and much more!





- Machine Learning Sections
 - Section for Type of Algorithm
 - Intuition and Mathematical Theory
 - Example code-along of application of Algorithm
 - Expansion of Algorithm
 - Project Exercise
 - Project Exercise Solution





- Machine Learning Sections
 - Exception for Linear Regression
 - Intuition and Mathematical Theory
 - Simple Linear Regression
 - Scikit-learn and Linear Regression
 - Regularization
 - "Discovering" additional ML topics





- Machine Learning Sections
 - "Discovering" additional ML topics
 - Performance Metrics
 - Feature Engineering
 - Cross-validation
 - Revisit Linear Regression to combine discovered ML ideas for Project Exercise.





Why Machine Learning?





- Machine learning in general is the study of statistical computer algorithms that improve automatically through data.
- This means unlike typical computer algorithms that rely on human input for what approach to take, ML algorithms infer best approach from the data itself.





- Machine learning is a subset of Artificial Intelligence.
- ML algorithms are not explicitly programmed on which decisions to make.
- Instead the algorithm is designed to infer from the data the most optimal choices to make.





- What kinds of problems can ML solve?
 - Credit Scoring
 - Insurance Risk
 - Price Forecasting
 - Spam Filtering
 - Customer Segmentation
 - Much more!





- Structure of ML Problem framing:
 - Given features from a data set obtain a desired label.
 - ML algorithms are often called "estimators" since they are estimating the desired label or output.





- How can ML be so robust in solving all sorts of problems?
- Machine learning algorithms rely on data and a set of statistical methods to learn what features are important in data.





- Simple Example:
 - Predict the price a house should sell at given its current features (Area, Bedrooms, Bathrooms, etc...)





- House Price Prediction
 - Typical Algorithm
 - Human user defines an algorithm to manually set values of importance for each feature.





- House Price Prediction
 - ML Algorithm
 - Algorithm automatically determines importance of each feature from existing data





- Why machine learning?
 - Many complex problems are only solvable with machine learning techniques.
 - Problems such as spam email or handwriting identification require ML for an effective solution.





- Why not just use machine learning for everything?
 - Major caveat to effective ML is good data.
 - Majority of development time is spent cleaning and organizing data, not implementing ML algorithms.





- Do we develop our own ML algorithms?
 - Rare to have a need to manually develop and implement a new ML algorithm, since these techniques are well documented and developed.





Types of Machine Learning





- There are two main types of Machine Learning we will cover in upcoming sections:
 - Supervised Learning
 - Unsupervised Learning





- Supervised Learning
 - Using historical and labeled data, the machine learning model predicts a value.
- Unsupervised Learning
 - Applied to unlabeled data, the machine learning model discovers possible patterns in the data.





- Supervised Learning
 - Requires historical labeled data:
 - Historical
 - Known results and data from the past.
 - Labeled
 - The desired output is known.





- Supervised Learning
 - Two main label types
 - Categorical Value to Predict
 - Classification Task
 - Continuous Value to Predict
 - Regression Task





- Supervised Learning
 - Classification Tasks
 - Predict an assigned category
 - Cancerous vs. Benign Tumor
 - Fulfillment vs. Credit Default
 - Assigning Image Category
 - Handwriting Recognition





- Supervised Learning
 - Regression Tasks
 - Predict a continuous value
 - Future prices
 - Electricity loads
 - Test scores





- Unsupervised Learning
 - Group and interpret data without a label.
 - Example:
 - Clustering customers into separate groups based off their behaviour features.





- Unsupervised Learning
 - Major downside is because there was no historical "correct" label, it is much harder to evaluate performance of an unsupervised learning algorithm.





- Machine Learning Sections
 - We first focus on supervised learning to build an understanding of machine learning capabilities.
 - Then shift focus to unsupervised learning for clustering and dimensionality reduction.





 Finally, before we dive into coding and linear regression in the next section, let's have a deep dive into the entire Supervised Machine Learning process to set ourselves up for success!