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Machine Learning with Python-From Linear Models to Deep Learning

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3. What is Machine Learning?

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Machine Learning and Prediction



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Machine learning as a discipline aims to design, understand, and apply computer programs that use past experience (i.e. data) for the purpose of modelling, prediction, and control. We will start with a simple machine learning task.

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There are many types of predictions that we can make. We can predict outcomes of events in the future such as the market, weather tomorrow, the next word a text message user will type, pedestrian behavior in self driving vehicles, and so on.

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We can also try to predict properties that we do not yet know. For example, properties of a chemical such as whether a chemical is soluble in water, what the object is in an image, what an English sentence carries positive sentiment, and so on.

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