

## Data science

An interdisciplinary field involving the design and use of techniques to process very large amounts of data from a variety of sources and to provide knowledge based on the data.



## Big data

Sets of data that are too large to be gathered and analyzed by traditional methods.



## Data-driven decision making

An organizational process to gather and analyze relevant and verifiable data and then evaluate the results to guide business strategies.



## **Predictive modeling**

A process in which historical data based on behaviors and events is blended with multiple variables and used to construct models of anticipated future outcomes.



## **Telematics**

The use of technological devices in vehicles with wireless communication and GPS tracking that transmit data to businesses or government agencies; some return information for the driver.



## **Text mining**

Obtaining information through language recognition.



## **Data mining**

The analysis of large amounts of data to find new relationships and patterns that will assist in developing business solutions.



## **Actuary**

A person who uses mathematical methods to analyze insurance data for various purposes, such as to develop insurance rates or set claim reserves.



## **Domain knowledge**

Information related to the context of the information a data scientist is working with.



## Structured data

Data organized into databases with defined fields, including links between databases.



## **Unstructured data**

Data that is not organized into predetermined formats, such as databases, and often consists of text, images, or other nontraditional media.



## **Premium**

The price of the insurance coverage provided for a specified period.



## Loss adjustment expense (LAE)

The expense that an insurer incurs to investigate, defend, and settle claims according to the terms specified in the insurance policy.



# Allocated loss adjustment expense (ALAE)

The expense an insurer incurs to investigate, defend, and settle claims that are associated with a specific claim.



# Unallocated loss adjustment expense (ULAE)

Loss adjustment expense that cannot be readily associated with a specific claim.



## Salvage

The process by which an insurer takes possession of damaged property for which it has paid a total loss and recovers a portion of the loss payment by selling the damaged property.



## **Subrogation**

The process by which an insurer can, after it has paid a loss under the policy, recover the amount paid from any party (other than the insured) who caused the loss or is otherwise legally liable for the loss.



## **Text mining**

The analysis of text for classification and prediction.



# Point of sale

A seamless transaction, documentation, and payment at the time and place of a sale.



# Classification tree

A supervised learning technique that uses a structure similar to a tree to segment data according to known attributes to determine the value of a categorical target variable.



# Regression analysis

A statistical technique that is used to estimate relationships between variables.



# **Cluster analysis**

A model that determines previously unknown groupings of data.



# Node

A representation of a data attribute.



# **Arrow**

A pathway in a classification tree.



# Leaf node

A terminal node of a classification tree that is used to classify an instance based on its attributes.



# **Target variable**

The predefined attribute whose value is being predicted in a data analytical model.



# **Linear regression**

A statistical method to predict the numerical value of a target variable based on the values of explanatory variables.



# Generalized linear model (GLM)

A statistical technique that increases the flexibility of a linear model by linking it with a nonlinear function.



# **Supervised learning**

A type of model creation, derived from the field of machine learning, in which the target variable is defined.



# **Unsupervised learning**

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A type of model creation, derived from the field of machine learning, that does not have a defined target variable.



# Predictive model

A model used to predict an unknown outcome by means of a defined target variable.



# **Descriptive model**

A model used to study and find relationships within data.



# **Attribute**

A variable that describes a characteristic of an instance within a model.



# Instance (example)

The representation of a data point described by a set of attributes within a model's dataset.



# **Algorithm**

An operational sequence used to solve mathematical problems and to create computer programs.



# Information gain

A measure of the predictive power of one or more attributes.



# **Entropy**

A measure of disorder in a dataset.



# Lift

In model performance evaluation, the percentage of positive predictions made by the model divided by the percentage of positive predictions that would be made in the absence of the model.



# Leverage

In model performance evaluation, the percentage of positive predictions made by the model minus the percentage of positive predictions that would be made in the absence of the model.



# **Nearest neighbor**

The most similar instance in a data model.



# k nearest neighbor (k-NN)

An algorithm in which "k" equals the number of nearest neighbors plotted on a graph.



# Class label

The value of the target variable in a model.



# **Link prediction**

A prediction of the connection between data items.



# **Training data**

Data that is used to train a predictive model and that therefore must have known values for the target variable of the model.



# **Overfitting**

The process of fitting a model too closely to the training data for the model to be effective on other data.



# **Holdout data**

In the model training process, existing data with a known target variable that is not used as part of the training data.



# Generalization

The ability of a model to apply itself to data outside the training data.



# Accuracy

In model performance evaluation, a model's correct predictions divided by its total predictions.



# **Precision**

In model performance evaluation, a model's correct positive predictions divided by its total positive predictions.



# Recall

In model performance evaluation, a model's correct positive predictions divided by the sum of its correct positive predictions and incorrect negative predictions.



# F-score

In statistics, the measure that combines precision and recall and is the harmonic mean of precision and recall.



# **Confusion matrix**

A matrix that shows the predicted and actual results of a model.



# K-means

An algorithm in which "k" indicates the number of clusters and "means" represents the clusters' centroids.



# **Centroid**

The center of a cluster.



# **Adverse development**

Increasing claims costs for which the reserves are inadequate.



# Long-tail claim

A claim in which there is a duration of more than one year from the date of loss to closure.



# **Complex claim**

A claim that contains one or more characteristics that cause it to cost more than the average claim.



# **Machine learning**

Artificial intelligence in which computers continually teach themselves to make better decisions based on previous results and new data.



# Recursively

Successively applying a model.



# **Data mining**

The process of extracting hidden patterns from data that is used in a wide range of applications for research and fraud detection.



## **Telematics**

The use of technological devices to transmit data via wireless communication and GPS tracking.



# Internet of Things (IoT)

A network of objects that transmit data to and from each other without human interaction.



# **Affinity marketing**

A type of group marketing that targets various groups based on profession, association, interests, hobbies, and attitudes.



# **Usage-based insurance**

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A type of auto insurance in which the premium is based on the policyholder's driving behavior.



# Business intelligence (BI)

The skills, technologies, applications, and practices used to improve decision-making insights and reinforce information integrity.



# Internet of Things (IoT)

A network of objects that transmit data to computers.



# **Underwriting**

The process of selecting insureds, pricing coverage, determining insurance policy terms and conditions, and then monitoring the underwriting decisions made.



# **Smart product**

An innovative item that uses sensors; wireless sensor networks; and data collection, transmission, and analysis to further enable the item to be faster, more useful, or otherwise improved.



# Wireless sensor network (WSN)

A wireless network consisting of individual sensors placed at various locations to exchange data.



# Radio frequency identification (RFID)

A technology that uses radio frequency to identify objects.



# Radio frequency identification (RFID) tag

A transponder that communicates with an antenna and transceiver (together called the reader) using radio frequency identification.



## Lidar

A sensor similar to radar that uses infrared light to detect nearby objects.



# **Smart transportation**

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The integration of strategic vehicle management solutions with innovative technologies.



## **Transducer**

A device that converts one form of energy into another.



## **Actuator**

A mechanical device that turns energy into motion or otherwise effectuates a change in position or rotation using a signal and an energy source.



## **Accelerometer**

A device that measures acceleration, motion, and tilt.



# Artificial intelligence (AI)

Computer processing or output that simulates human reasoning or knowledge.



## Chatbot

Software that uses artificial intelligence to engage in dialogue with a human and provide simple responses.



## Conversational Al

Software that uses artificial intelligence to hold a natural language conversation with a human through a messaging application, text, or website, or over the phone.



# **Deep learning**

Insights into data use and processing gained by combining artificial intelligence and machine learning. It is based on algorithms derived from artificial neural networks.



## **Neural network**

A data analysis technique composed of three layers, including an input layer, a hidden layer with nonlinear functions, and an output layer, that is used for complex problems.



## **Firmware**

Software providing basic control for a device's hardware.



## **Energy transfer theory**

An approach to accident causation that views accidents as energy that is released and that affects objects, including living things, in amounts or at rates that the objects cannot tolerate.



# Job safety analysis (JSA)

An analysis that dissects a repetitive task, whether performed by a person or machine, to determine potential hazards if each action is not performed.



## **Causal factors**

The agents that directly result in one event causing another.



# **Probability analysis**

A technique for forecasting events, such as accidental and business losses, on the assumption that they are governed by an unchanging probability distribution.



## **Probability distribution**

A presentation (table, chart, or graph) of probability estimates of a particular set of circumstances and of the probability of each possible outcome.



# Theoretical probability

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Probability that is based on theoretical principles rather than on actual experience.



# **Empirical probability (a posteriori probability)**

A probability measure that is based on actual experience through historical data or from the observation of facts.



# Law of large numbers

A mathematical principle stating that as the number of similar but independent exposure units increases, the relative accuracy of predictions about future outcomes (losses) also increases.



## Unfair discrimination

Applying different standards or methods of treatment to insureds who have the same basic characteristics and loss potential, such as charging higher-than-normal rates for an auto insurance applicant based solely on the applicant's race, religion, or ethnic background.