Drill: Regression or classification

1. The amount a person will spend on a given site in the next 24 months.

Regression – the outcome variable is continuous

1. What color car someone is going to buy

Classification – the outcome variable is categorical

1. How many children a family will have

Classification or Regression – If I use classification then for each observation (child) I will be able to evaluate the likelihood of each given value. If I use regression I am going to find their most likely place along a continuous line. There is no limit on the amount of children a family could have but most likely the number is discrete and less than 8.

1. If someone will sign up for a service

Classification – the outcome variable is categorical – in this case yes or no.

1. The number of times someone will get sick in a year

Classification or Regression – If I use classification then for each observation (illness) I will be able to evaluate the likelihood of each given value. If I use regression I am going to find the most likely place along a continuous line. There is no limit on the amount of times someone will get sick in a year.

1. The probability someone will get sick in the next month

Classification – a classifier will assign a probability of each category therefore it will assign a probability of someone getting sick

1. Which medicine will work best for a given patient

Regression – looking at the relationship between the medicine and the patient