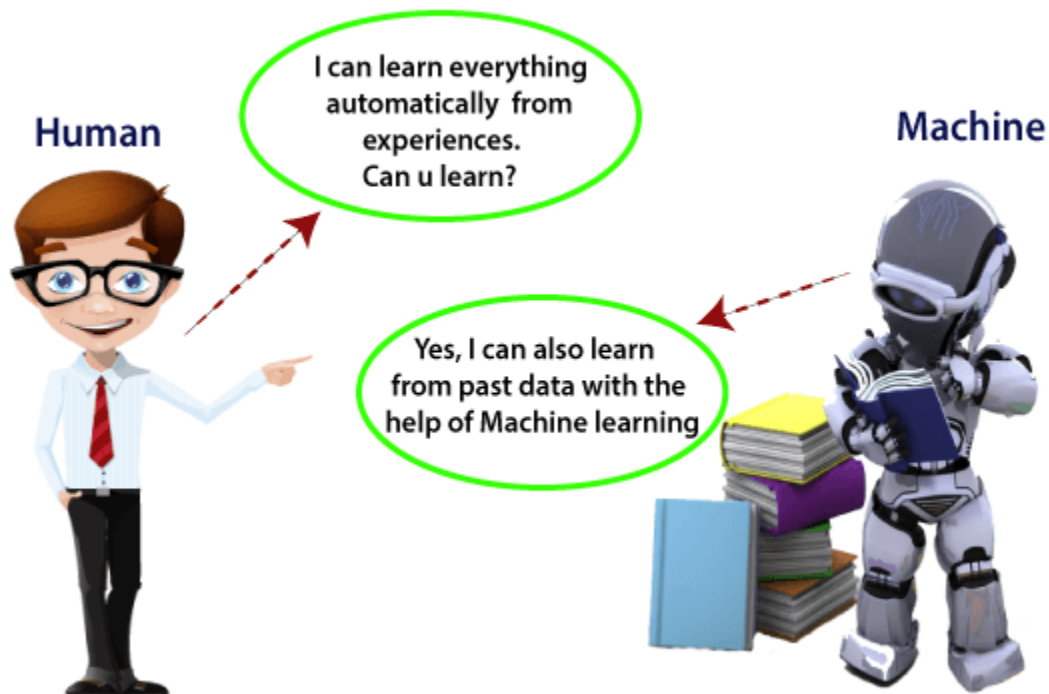## What is Machine Learning

In the real world, we are surrounded by humans who can learn everything from their experiences with their learning capability, and we have computers or machines which work on our instructions. But can a machine also learn from experiences or past data like a human does? So here comes the role of **Machine Learning**.

Machine Learning is said as a subset of **artificial intelligence** that is mainly concerned with the development of algorithms which allow a computer to learn from the data and past experiences on their own. The term machine learning was first introduced by **Arthur Samuel** in **1959**. We can define it in a summarized way as:

Machine learning enables a machine to automatically learn from data, improve performance from experiences, and predict things without being explicitly programmed.

With the help of sample historical data, which is known as **training data**, machine learning algorithms build a **mathematical model** that helps in making predictions or decisions without being explicitly programmed. Machine learning brings computer science and statistics together for creating predictive models. Machine learning constructs or uses the algorithms that learn from historical

data. The more we will provide the information, the higher will be the performance.

A machine has the ability to learn if it can improve its performance by gaining more data.

How does Machine Learning work

A Machine Learning system **learns from historical data, builds the prediction models, and whenever it receives new data, predicts the output for it**. The accuracy of predicted output depends upon the amount of data, as the huge amount of data helps to build a better model which predicts the output more accurately.

Suppose we have a complex problem, where we need to perform some predictions, so instead of writing a code for it, we just need to feed the data to generic algorithms, and with the help of these algorithms, machine builds the logic as per the data and predict the output. Machine learning has changed our way of thinking about the problem. The below block diagram explains the working of Machine Learning algorithm:
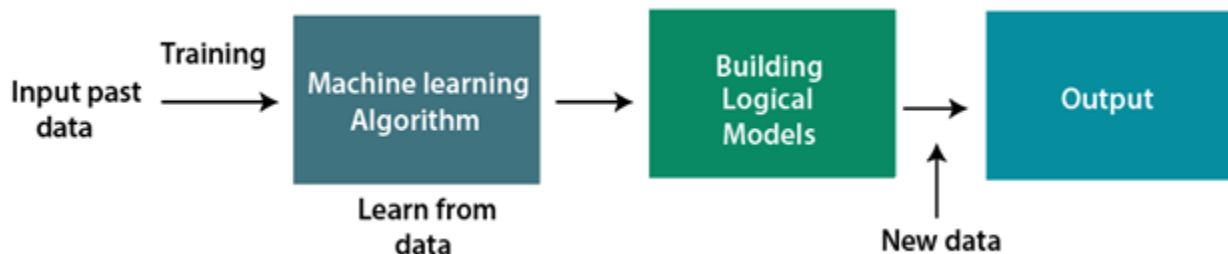
Features of Machine Learning:

- o Machine learning uses data to detect various patterns in a given dataset.
- o It can learn from past data and improve automatically.
- o It is a data-driven technology.
- o Machine learning is much similar to data mining as it also deals with the huge amount of the data.

Need for Machine Learning

The need for machine learning is increasing day by day. The reason behind the need for machine learning is that it is capable of doing tasks that are too complex for a person to implement directly. As a human, we have some limitations as we cannot access the huge amount of data manually, so for this, we need some computer systems and here comes the machine learning to make things easy for us.

We can train machine learning algorithms by providing them the huge amount of data and let them explore the data, construct the models, and predict the required output automatically. The performance of the machine learning algorithm depends on the amount of data, and it can be determined by the cost function. With the help of machine learning, we can save both time and money.

The importance of machine learning can be easily understood by its uses cases, Currently, machine learning is used in **self-driving cars**, **cyber fraud detection**, **face recognition**, and **friend suggestion by Facebook**, etc. Various top companies such as Netflix and Amazon have build machine learning models that are using a vast amount of data to analyze the user interest and recommend product accordingly.

Following are some key points which show the importance of Machine Learning:

- o Rapid increment in the production of data
- o Solving complex problems, which are difficult for a human
- o Decision making in various sector including finance
- o Finding hidden patterns and extracting useful information from data.

Classification of Machine Learning

At a broad level, machine learning can be classified into three types:

1. **Supervised learning**
2. **Unsupervised learning**
3. **Reinforcement learning**