Overview of Machine Learning: Opportunities and Challenges

John D. Lee and Linda Ng Boyle 10/1/2018

HF Considerations for ML and ML Considerations for HF

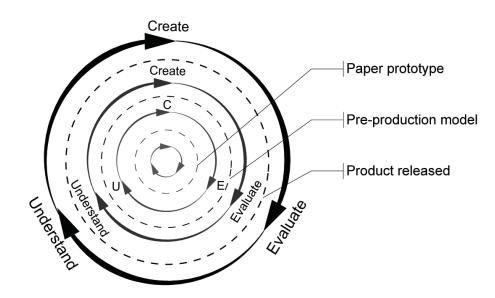
- Human-centered ML represents a looming societal need
- ML deployment sometimes neglects design and systems thinking
- ML mindset for data analysis might save us from the p-value ritual
- ML and Human-centered tradeoffs in model development

Increasing Centrality of Machine Learning in System Design

Human implications of increasingly powerful algorithms

Design Thinking and Systems Thinking for Machine Learning

- Design thinking: Empathy and understanding for person-centered solutions
- Systems thinking: 5 whys? 5 whats?
- Sea-level and C-level support for success



Machine Learning versus Inferential Data Analysis

- Linear regression and logistic regression as machine learning?

ML mindset

Prediction

Inference

Cross validation and prediction error

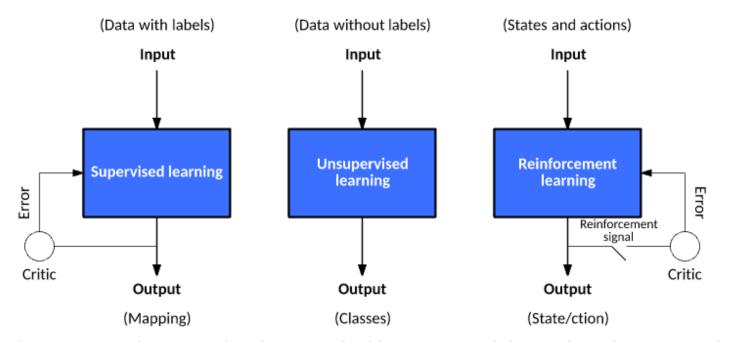
Hypothesis testing and p values

Practical significance

Statistical significance

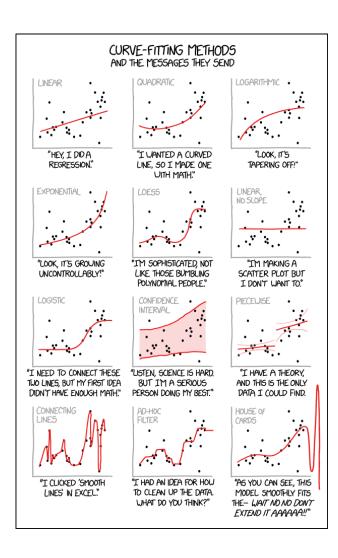
Types of Machine Learning

- Supervised learning: Predicting a known output
- Unsupervised learning: Identifying unknown patterns or clusters
- Reinforcement learning: Learning through interactions with a system



https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/library/cc-models-machine-learning/index.html

Supervised Learning: More than curve fitting?



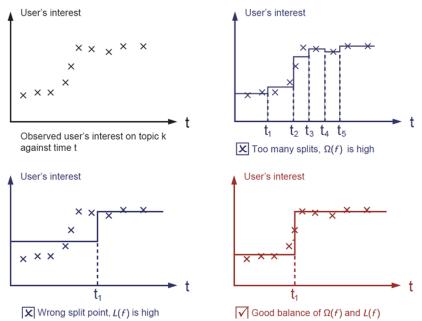
Essential Tradeoffs in ML Design

Variance-bias tradeoff of a model θ

 $\Omega(\theta)$ = Model complexity, ideally small variance and good generalization

 $L(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \hat{y_i})^2$ = Model error, ideally small bias and precise predictions

Objective function(θ) = $\Omega(\theta) + L(\theta)$



https://xgboost.readthedocs.io/en/latest/index.html

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Essential Tradeoffs in ML Design

Human-centered tradeoffs

- Different errors: Cost of a miss may differ than a cost of a false alarm
- $L(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i \hat{y}_i)^2$ Positive errors equally problematic as negative errors??
- Trust depends on more than AUC (Area Under the Receiver-Operator Curve): Hard hits don't compensate for easy misses
- People might value understandable models more than precise models
- $\Omega(\theta)$ Model complexity does not typically reflect perceived complexity

Essential Tradeoffs in ML Design

Hyperparameters

 Hyperparameters are parameters of the ML algorithms that govern how they fit the data – Some hyperparameters allow a better model fit – Some hyperparameters allow a more robust model – Some hyperparameters allow for a more understandable model

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