

# Supervised learning

## Definition of supervised learning, Regression versus Classification

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# Machine Learning

- was coined by **Arthur Samuel** in 1959 to describe the subfield of computer science.
- Involves the “programming of a digital computer to behave in a way which, if done by human beings or animals, would be described as involving the process of learning”.
- Also him: “the field of study that gives computers the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed”



Figure: Arthur Samuel who coined the term ‘Machine Learning’ [Source]

# Machine learning algorithms

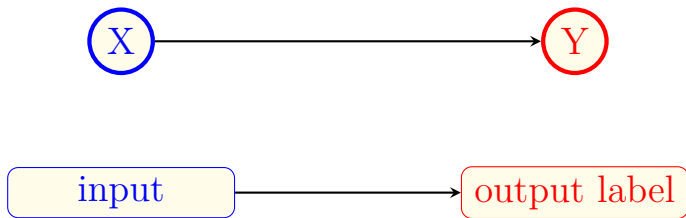
- ① Supervised learning ← *We will be here soon!* ☺
- ② Unsupervised learning
- ③ Reinforcement learning

Equally important: Practical advice for applying machine learning algorithms



Figure: Not just the tools but also how to use them ☺

# Supervised learning

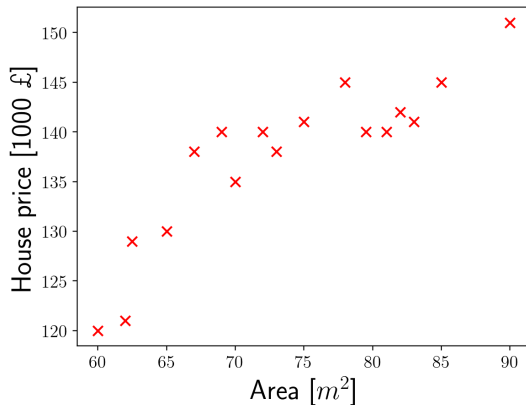


Learns from being given “right answers”

## Supervised learning: Some applications

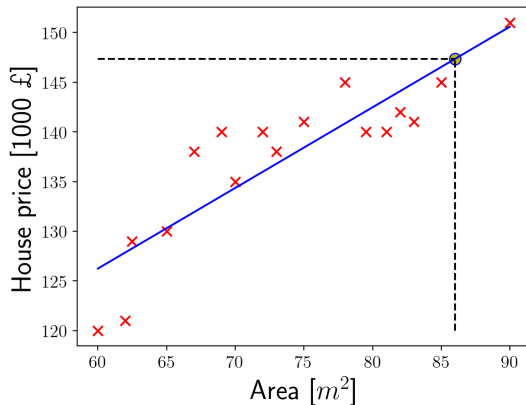
Input (X)	Output (Y)	Application
email	spam (0/1)	spam filtering
audio	text transcripts	speech recognition
English	Spanish	machine translation
ad, user info	click??? (0/1)	online advertising
image, radar info	position of other cars	self-driving car
image of phone	detect (0/1)	visual inspection

## Regression problem



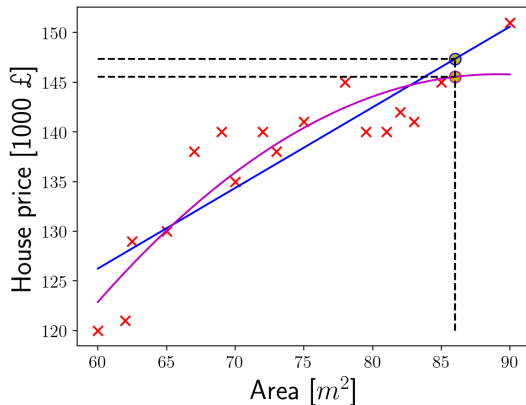
Fantasized price house in Glasgow (based on lecturer's experience)

# Regression problem



What is the price of house of area =  $86m^2$ ?  $\rightarrow$  maybe a linear line?

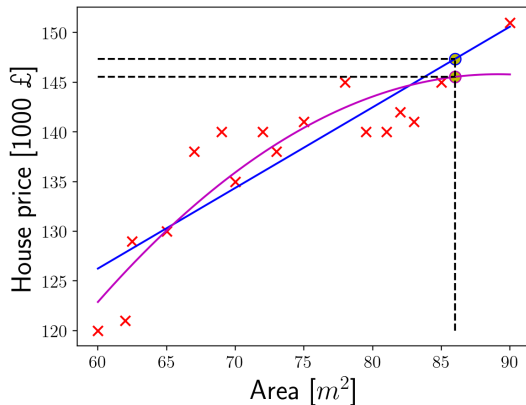
# Regression problem



What is the price of house of area =  $86m^2$ ?  $\rightarrow$  maybe a curve?



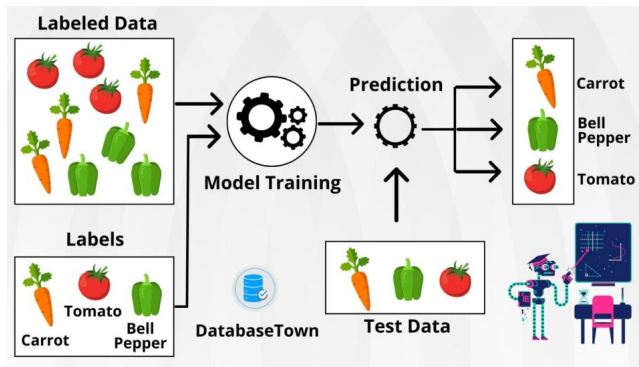
# Regression problem



Regression: predict a **number**

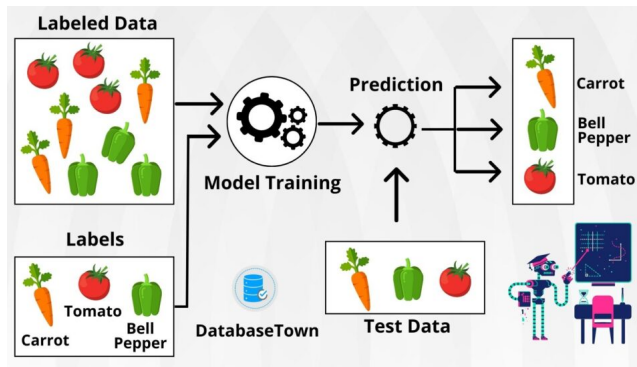
essentially, **infinitely** many possible outputs  $\longleftrightarrow$  **continuous output range**

# Classification problem



Given an image of a vegetable, can the machine tell whether it is carrot, paprika or tomato?

# Classification problem



**Classification:** predict categories/classes

class and category are used interchangeably

small number of possible outputs  $\longleftrightarrow$  finite set of outputs

# Supervised learning: Regression vs Classification

Supervised learning: Learn from being given “right answers”

Regression

predict a **number**

**infinitely** many possible outputs

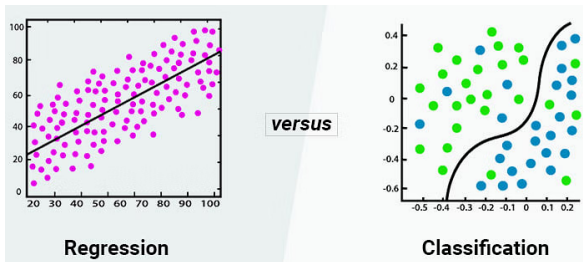
find a curve fitting

Classification

predict **categories**

**small number** of possible outputs

find decision boundaries



## The hype of AI and some criticisms

- In “Neural Networks and Statistical Models” Warren S. Sarle wrote “the most commonly used artificial neural networks, called multilayer perceptrons, are nothing more than nonlinear regression and discriminant models that can be implemented with standard statistical software.” [Source: Forbes]
- In 2019, Facebook’s top AI researcher and Turing Award-winner Yann LeCun declared that “Our best AI systems have less common sense than a house cat.” [Source: Forbes]
- AI researchers allege that machine learning is alchemy [Source: Science]
- The way we train AI is fundamentally flawed. [Source: MIT Technology Review]

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## One of my favorite jokes

People with no idea  
about AI, telling me my  
AI will destroy the world

Me wondering why my  
neural network is  
classifying a cat as a dog..



*But is it Joke or Truth?*

# Machine learning = Statistics + Computer Science

