



# **AI200: APPLIED MACHINE LEARNING**

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INTRODUCTION TO MACHINE LEARNING

# BROAD IDEA OF MACHINE LEARNING



# BROAD IDEA OF MACHINE LEARNING



- In machine learning, data comes in the form of:
  - **Outcome** we want to predict and,
  - **Features** that we will use to predict the outcome

Features			Outcome
S/N	sqm	bedrooms	price
1	100	3	300200
2	120	4	25000
		.	
		.	
		.	
N	105	3	300000

# BROAD IDEA OF MACHINE LEARNING

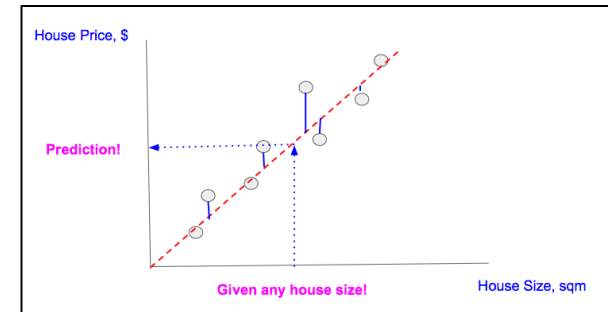


- The idea behind the machine learning approach is to:
  - Train an algorithm/ML model using a dataset for which we do know the **outcome**

Features			Outcome
S/N	sqm	bedrooms	price
1	100	3	300200
2	120	4	250000
		.	
		.	
		.	
N	105	3	300000

Train Model  
on Data

Algorithm / ML Model



# BROAD IDEA OF MACHINE LEARNING

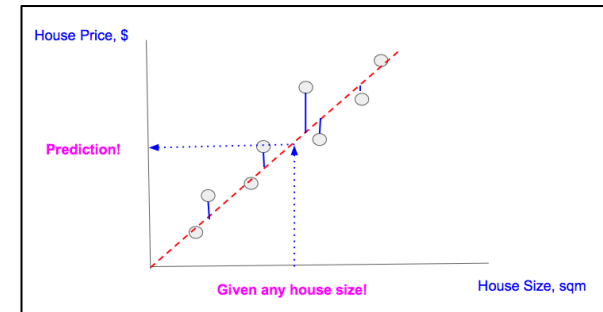


- The idea behind the machine learning approach is to:
  - Train an algorithm/ML model using a dataset for which we do know the **outcome**
  - And then use this algorithm/ML model on the **available features** in the future to make a prediction for when we don't know the **outcome**

Features			Outcome
S/N	sqm	bedrooms	price
1	100	3	300200
2	120	4	250000
		⋮	
N	105	3	300000

Train Model  
on Data

Algorithm / ML Model



In Future

Available Features			Outcome
S/N	sqm	bedrooms	price
1	200	4	?
2	210	4	?
		⋮	
N	215	4	?

Predict Outcome  
for Data

Predicted Outcome

S/N	sqm	bedrooms	price
1	200	4	400000
2	210	4	410000
		⋮	
N	215	4	420000

# COMMONLY USED LINGOS/NOTATIONS IN MACHINE LEARNING



- Throughout the course, you will see us frequently use:
  - $y$  to denote **outcome** and
  - $X (x_1, x_2 \dots x_p)$  to denote the **features**
- There are many other synonyms for outcomes and features, which sometimes is what makes ML so confusing. For this course, and for your future correspondence with other Data Scientists, stick to **Outcome (y)** and **Features ( $x_1, x_2 \dots x_p$ )**. This is the most used terminology.

**Features ( $x_1, x_2 \dots x_p$ ) / Predictors /  
Covariates / Explanatory Variable /  
Independent Variable**

	$x_1$	$x_2$	
S/N	sqm	bedrooms	price
1	100	3	300200
2	120	4	250000
		.	
		.	
		.	
N	105	3	300000

**Outcome (y) / Response Variable /  
Dependent Variable / Target Variable**

# OVERVIEW & LITERATURE OF MACHINE LEARNING: LEARNING SPECTRUM

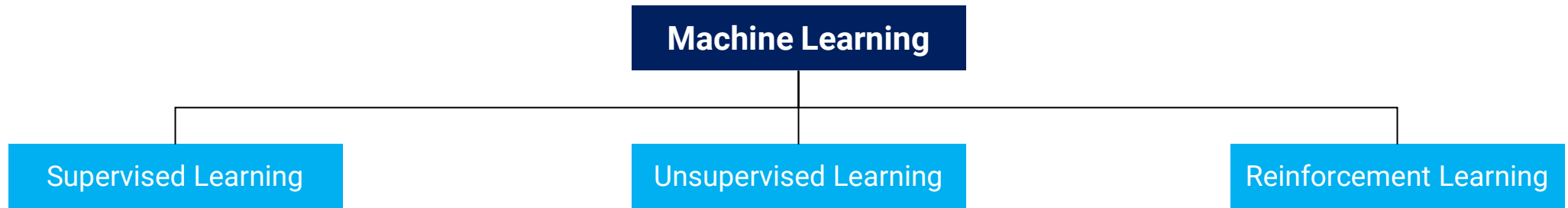


- Earlier, we provided a general intuition for understanding Machine Learning. However, the truth is there are numerous algorithms/ML model each with their own intricacies, and they solve very different kind of problems.
- As such, there is a need to be able to categorize this wide range of algorithms and ML models based on their use cases. In the next slide, we provide a synthesis of how various ML terms fit into the big picture.

# OVERVIEW & LITERATURE OF MACHINE LEARNING: LEARNING SPECTRUM



1. Spectrum of supervision

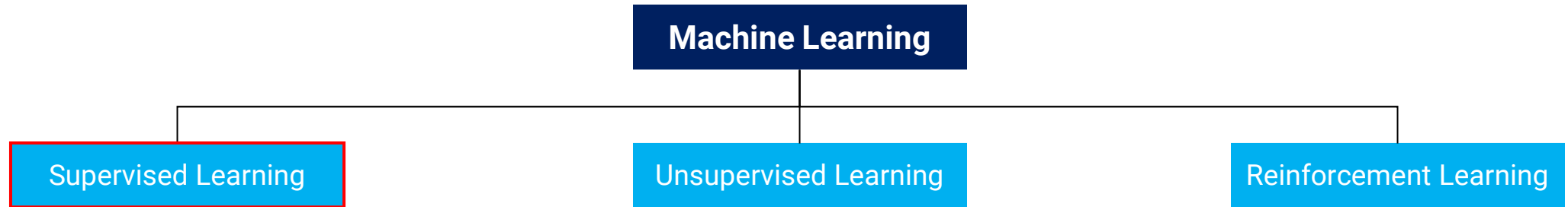




# OVERVIEW & LITERATURE OF MACHINE LEARNING: LEARNING SPECTRUM



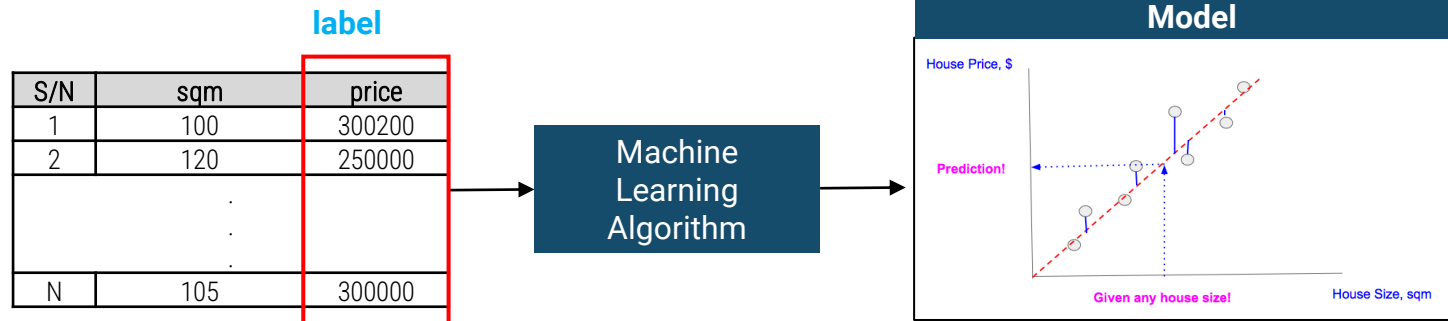
## 1. Spectrum of supervision



## Supervised Learning

Supervised learning is a type of ML where the model is provided with **labeled** training data. This labeled data acts as a teacher and in training the model. Once the model gets trained it can start making a prediction or decision when new data is given to it. Label is the one thing that we are interested in predicting.

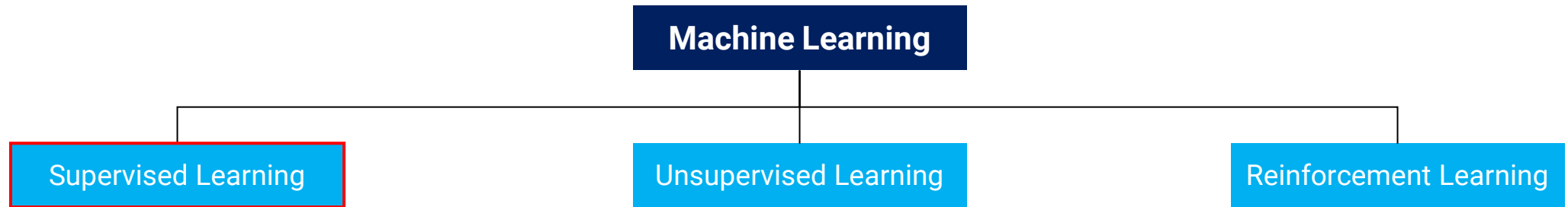
### Training



# OVERVIEW & LITERATURE OF MACHINE LEARNING: LEARNING SPECTRUM



## 1. Spectrum of supervision



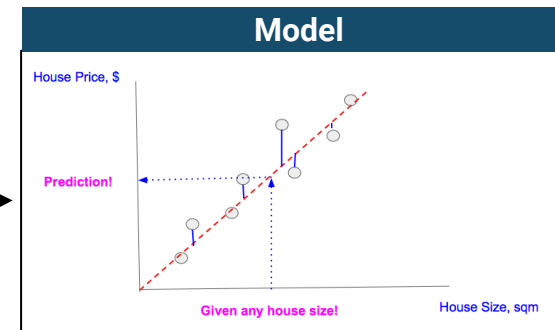
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### Training

S/N	sqm	price
1	100	300200
2	120	250000
...		
N	105	300000

Machine Learning Algorithm



### Prediction

S/N	sqm	price
1	40	?
2	50	?

no label

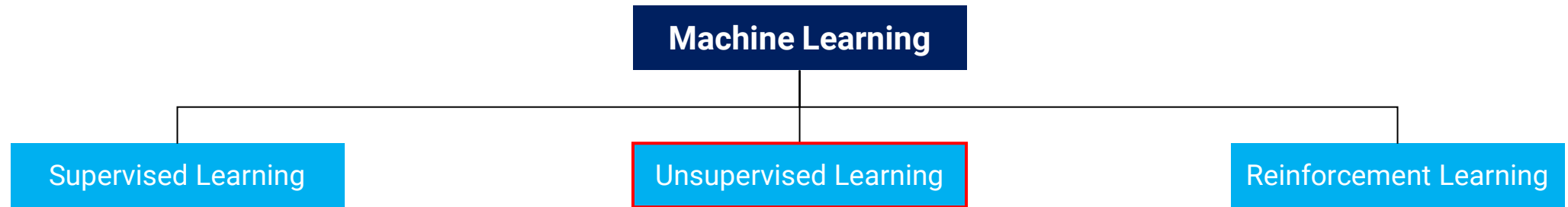
Predicted outcome

S/N	sqm	price
1	40	170000
2	50	175000

# OVERVIEW & LITERATURE OF MACHINE LEARNING: LEARNING SPECTRUM



## 1. Spectrum of supervision



## Unsupervised Learning

In unsupervised learning, the goal is to identify meaningful patterns in the data. To accomplish this, the machine must learn from an [unlabeled](#) data set. In other words, the model has no hints how to categorize each piece of data and must infer its own rules for doing so.

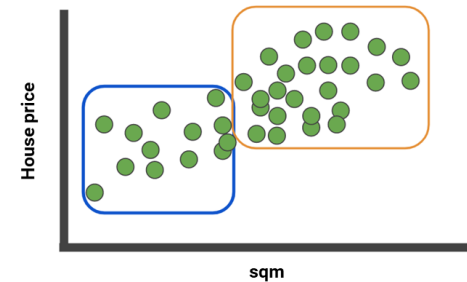
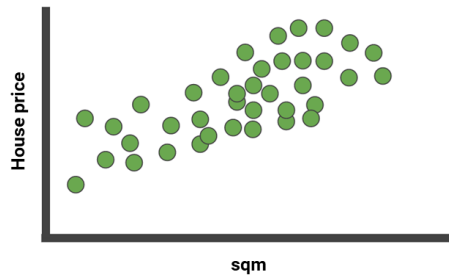
S/N	sqm	price
1	100	300200
2	120	250000
.	.	.
N	105	300000



Machine Learning Algorithm



S/N	sqm	price	Cluster
1	100	300200	2
2	120	250000	1
.	.	.	.
N	105	300000	2

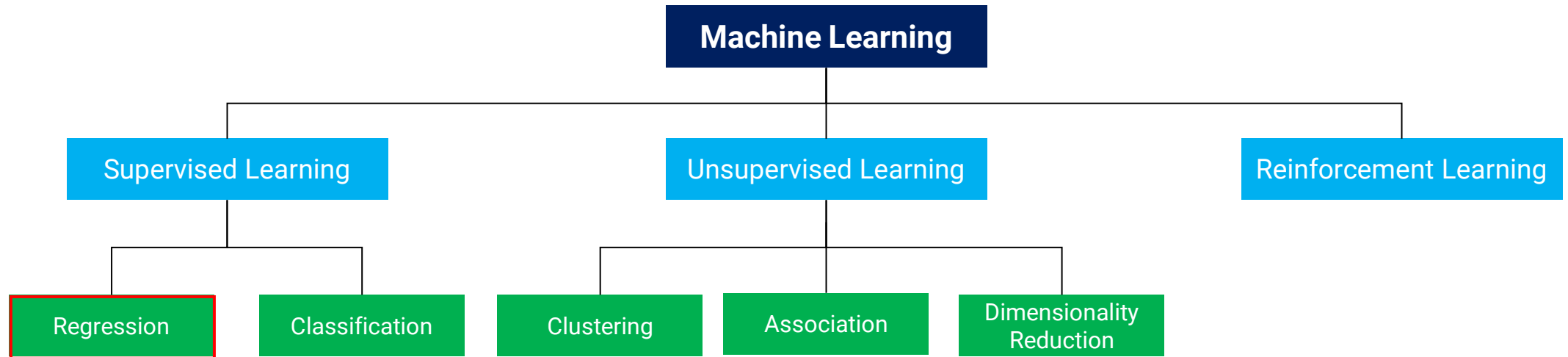


# OVERVIEW & LITERATURE OF MACHINE LEARNING: TYPES OF PROBLEMS



1. Spectrum of supervision

2. Types of problems



## Regression

A regression problem is when the output variable is a real or continuous value, such as “price” or “weight”. In layman terms - predict numerical data on a continuous scale.

**Training**

S/N	sqm	price
1	100	300200
2	120	250000
...		
N	105	300000

**Prediction**

S/N	sqm	price
1	40	?
2	50	?

no label

Machine Learning Algorithm

**Predicted outcome**

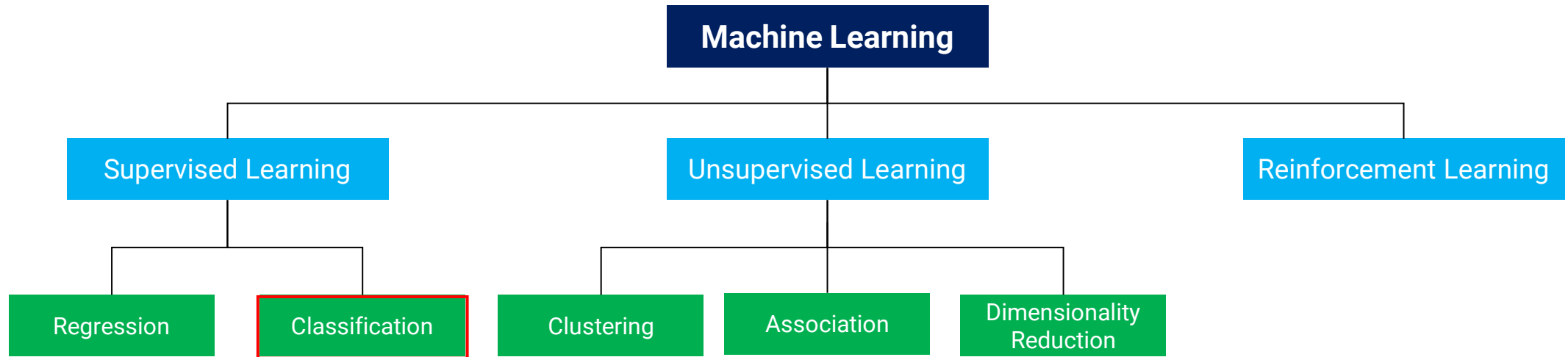
S/N	sqm	price
1	40	170000
2	50	175000

# OVERVIEW & LITERATURE OF MACHINE LEARNING: TYPES OF PROBLEMS



1. Spectrum of supervision

2. Types of problems



## Classification

A classification problem is when the output variable is a category, such as “red” or “blue” or “disease” and “no disease”. In layman terms - predict a discrete category.

**Training**

S/N	sqm	price	Sold?
1	100	300200	0
2	120	250000	1
...			
N	105	300000	1

**Prediction**

S/N	sqm	price	Sold?
1	40	150000	?
2	50	155000	?

no label

Machine Learning Algorithm

**Predicted outcome**

S/N	sqm	price	Sold?
1	40	150000	1
2	50	155000	0

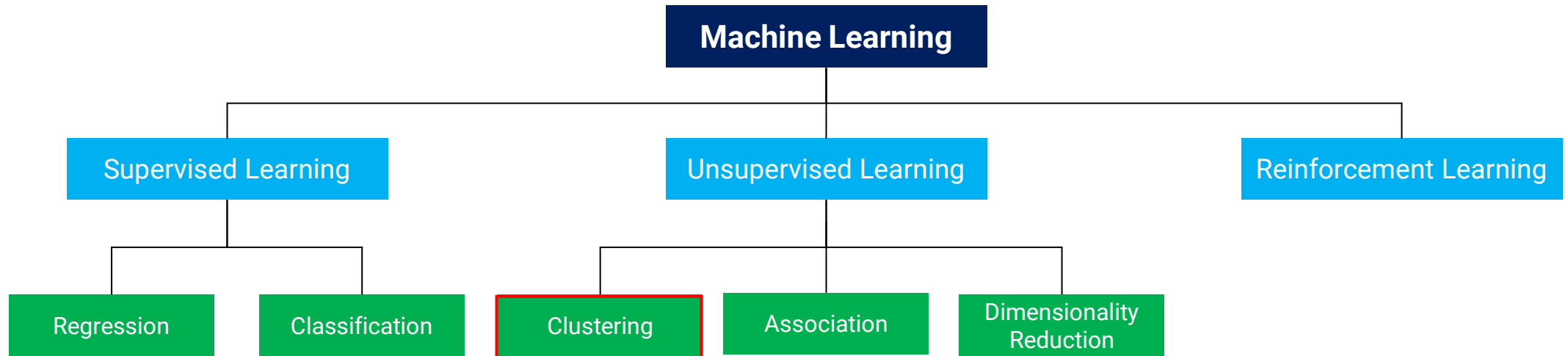
For classification problems, labels are always assigned a numerical value representing the label.

# OVERVIEW & LITERATURE OF MACHINE LEARNING: TYPES OF PROBLEMS



1. Spectrum of supervision

2. Types of problems



## Clustering

Clustering is the task of grouping a set of objects in such a way that objects in the same group (called a cluster) are more similar (in some sense) to each other than to those in other groups (clusters). In layman terms – group similar examples.

Training

S/N	sqm	price
1	100	300200
2	120	250000
⋮		
N	105	300000

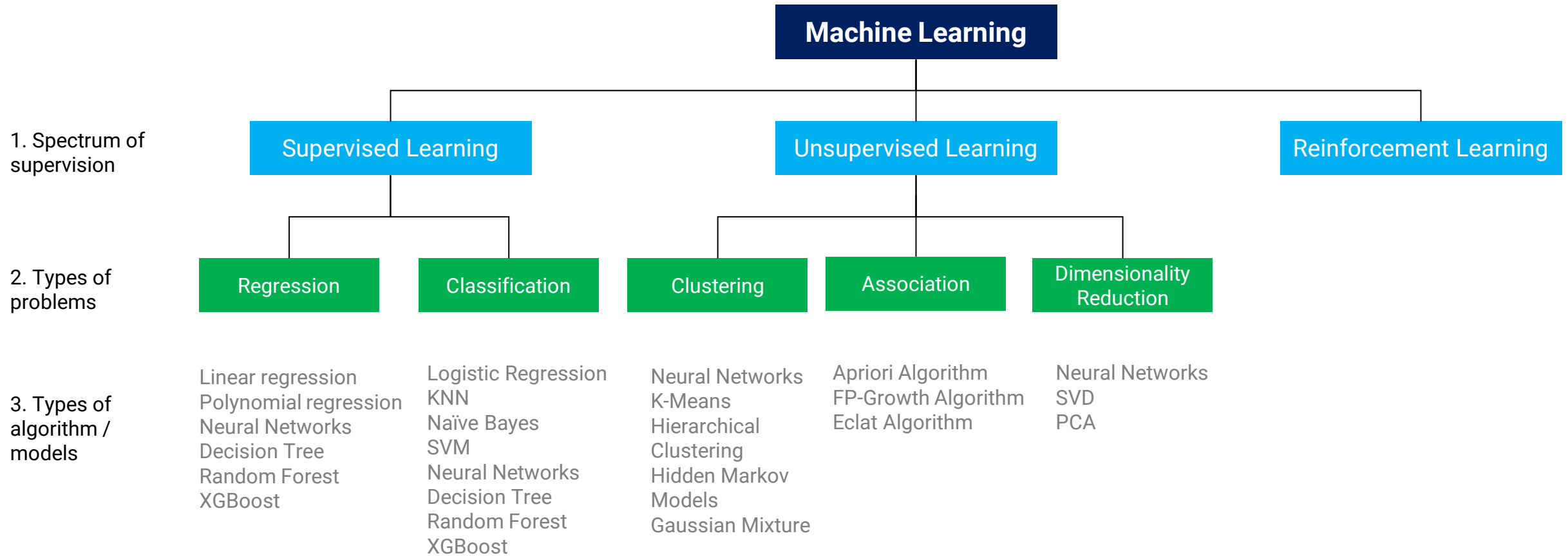
Machine Learning Algorithm

Predicted outcome

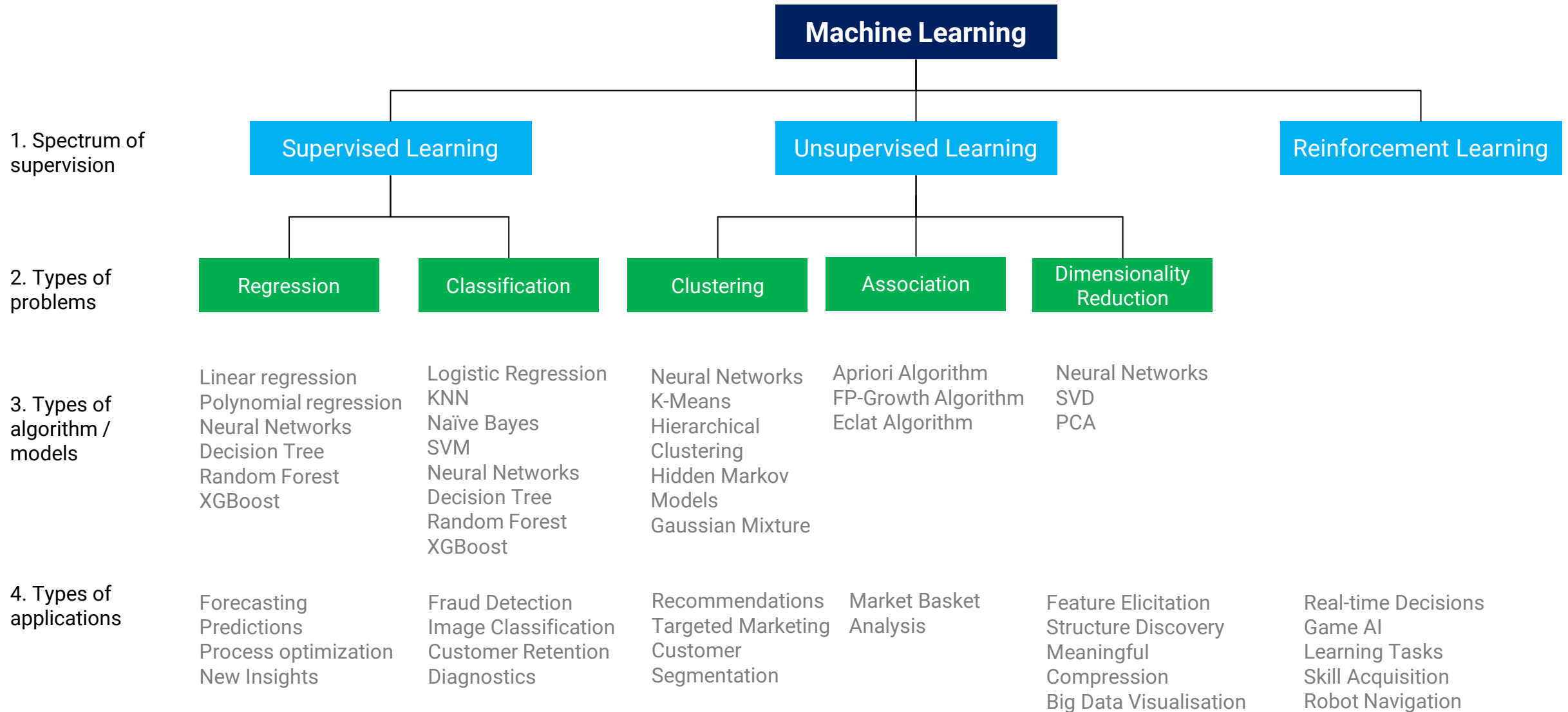
S/N	sqm	price	Cluster
1	100	300200	0
2	120	250000	1
⋮			
N	105	300000	

The difference between classification and clustering is that in clustering, there is no label provided at all.

# OVERVIEW & LITERATURE OF MACHINE LEARNING: TYPES OF MODELS

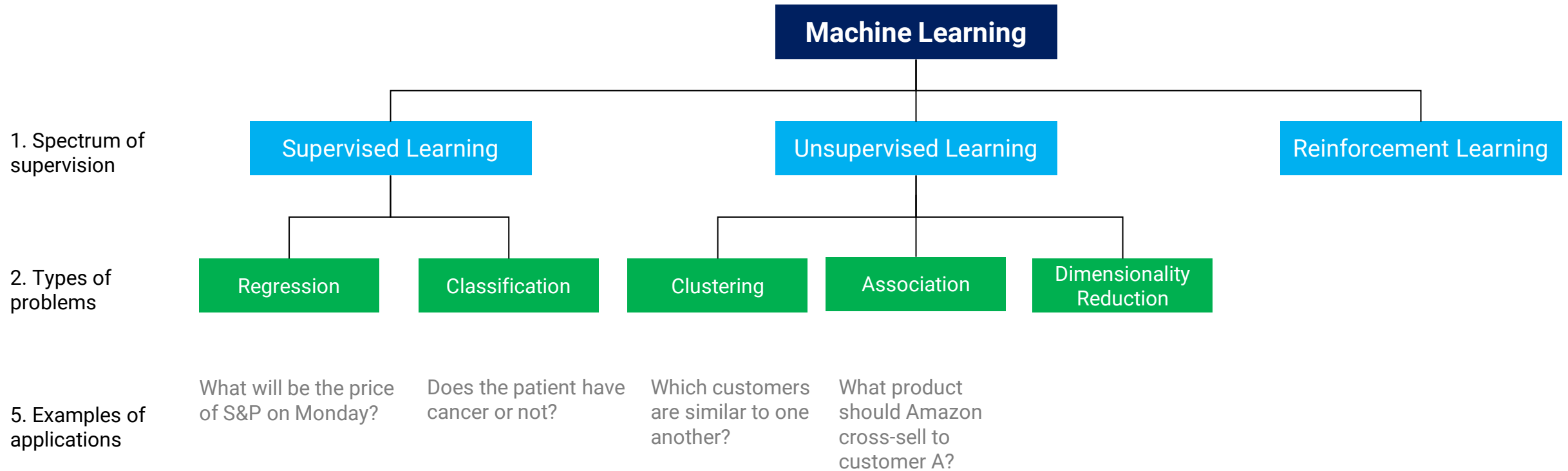


# OVERVIEW & LITERATURE OF MACHINE LEARNING: TYPES OF MODELS





# OVERVIEW & LITERATURE OF MACHINE LEARNING: TYPES OF MODELS



# STATE OF MACHINE LEARNING TODAY



- The realm of machine learning can be overwhelming with so many types of algorithm / ML models and use cases.
- We can liken this to a hawker center:
  - Every hawker center has many types of cuisine (Chinese, Indian, western...etc.)
  - Every type of cuisine has many different types of dishes (chicken rice, carrot cake...etc.)
  - There are several stalls selling the same dish in a hawker center (Ah beng chicken rice, Tian Tian chicken rice...etc.)
- Given our limited time and stomach space, how do we optimize our experience?



# AI200's APPROACH TO ML



- To optimize our learning experience, we need to be targeted and will focus on:
  - Common ML problems (regression, classification & clustering)
  - Baseline models for each of the ML problems (linear regression, random forest, K-Means), where we will learn:
    - The intuition behind the model (and not the math),
    - The implementation of the model using Scikit-learn
  - How to measure performance of the model, and tune the model to improve performance
  - Application of the models in common but high-impact use cases (e.g. Recommendation Systems for E-Commerce)
  - Key considerations as we go about modelling:
    - Generalizability
    - Bias-Variance Tradeoff
    - Interpretability-Flexibility Tradeoff
    - Feature Engineering



## AI200's APPROACH TO ML



- In a hawker centre, the goal of a discerning connoisseur is to find the best chicken rice rather than try as many different chicken rice as possible. Similarly, in the context of ML, rather than blindly learning as many ML models as we can, we aim to go deep for select important aspects in ML.



**Golden words:** Be a connoisseur and not a glutton when it comes to both ML and food!



# SOMEONE IS MORE OBSESSED WITH CHICKEN RICE THAN US



## I made a machine learning chicken rice classifier in ~4 hours to tell me what type of chicken rice I bought for lunch



Preston Lim  
Sep 25, 2018 · 5 min read



This entire frivolous episode started when my colleague got chicken rice for lunch. The lunchtime conversation then evolved into how there was this hilarious Instagram account called *kuey.png* whose owner photographed one plate of chicken rice every single day for 279 days as of yesterday.

An aside here. For non-Singaporeans: “*kuey.png*” is the Hokkien term for chicken rice, one of the national dishes of Singapore. And this Instagram account owner uploads .png format photos of the chicken rice — hence the name, *kuey.png*. This really tickled me. Anyway, back to the lunchtime convo.

As conversations in the Data Science Division of GovTech do, our convo soon spiralled into “wow this would be an amazing machine learning dataset for chicken rice” and “wait could we train a classifier to differentiate between **steamed** and **roasted** chicken rice?”. Next thing I know, it is 1am on a Monday night and I’m waiting for my chicken rice machine learning model to finish training.

Here’s the solution — a tool that allows you to take or upload a photo of chicken rice, and the machine learning classifier tells you if it is a plate of steamed or roasted chicken rice. (I’m still debating whether I should turn it into a web app that anyone can use. Let me know what you think.)

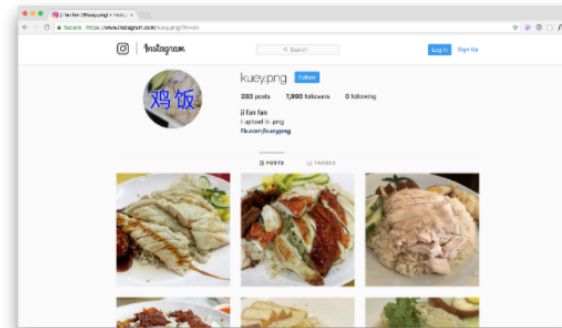
### The magic of AutoML Vision

Traditionally, it would have taken me days at the very least to create and deploy an ML classifier on the internet. I would have had to (1) curate and label the dataset, (2) train an ML classifier, (3) deploy the ML model, (4) create a server with a REST API to call the ML classifier.

With AutoML Vision, all I had to do was step (1). And that’s why I was able to finish the entire project in ~4 hours. Though to be perfectly honest, I could have completed it sooner, but I was multi-tasking by labelling the chicken rice images while watching the extremely confusing pilot of *Maniac* ft. Emma Stone and Jonah Hill. What is even going on in this show? What year is it supposed to be in the world of *Maniac*? Anyway, I digress. Here’s a quick rundown of what I did.

#### Step 1: Obtain images from *kuey.png* on Instagram

Because Instagram makes it really hard to obtain images from its platform, I painstakingly took screenshots of the 279 individual images on my Macbook.



**Source:** <https://blog.usejournal.com/i-made-a-machine-learning-chicken-rice-classifier-in-4-hours-to-tell-me-what-type-of-chicken-rice-e9b1af4aa069>