

# Introduction

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September 10, 2023

## 1 Informal Definitions

### Definition 1: /machine\_learning

A computer program learns from an experience  $E$  with respect to a class of tasks  $T$  and performance measure  $P$  if its performance at tasks in  $T$  measured by  $P$  improves from using  $E$ .

### Definition 2: [machine\_learning]/loss\_function

Consider:

1. Feature space  $X$
2. Label space  $Y$

Then  $L$  is some loss function  $L : Y \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , where:  $L(f(x), y)$  is the loss predicting  $f(x)$  when the true label is  $y$ .

### Definition 3: [machine\_learning, loss\_function]/learning\_problem

A learning problem is a tuple

$$(X, Y, L, F) \tag{1}$$

1.  $X$  is the input space, also called the feature space.
2.  $Y$  is the output space, also called the label space.
3.  $L$  is some loss function.
4.  $F$  is a set of functions  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ .

The goal is to get as close as in  $F$  to the function:

$$f^* \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \arg \min_{y \in Y} L(f(x), y) \tag{2}$$

### Definition 4: [learning\_problem]/supervised\_learning\_problem

Consider

1. Learning problem  $(X, Y, L, F)$
2. Training dataset  $T \subseteq (X \times Y)^{<\omega}$
3.  $D$  as some probability measure over  $X \times Y$ .

A supervised learning problem is a learning problem

$$(X, Y, L, F, T, D) \tag{3}$$

### Definition 5: [learning\_problem]/training\_error

Consider

- $(X, Y, L, F)$  a supervised learning problem
- $f \in F$  a function

Define the loss of a function  $f$ :

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$$L(y_i, f(x_i)) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{1}_{y_i \neq f(x_i)} \tag{4}$$

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$$E_n(f) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in n} L(f(x_i), y_i) \tag{5}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in n} L(y_i, f(x_i)) \tag{6}$$

### Definition 6: [supervised\_learning\_problem]/linear\_classifier

Let  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  be some inner product space. Consider any learning problem  $(X, \{0, 1\}, F, T, D)$ . A linear classifier learns:

1.  $\vec{w} \in X$
2.  $r \in \mathbb{R}$

such that:

$$f(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} 1 & \langle \vec{w}, \vec{x} \rangle > r \\ -1 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases} \tag{7}$$

$$\tag{8}$$

is a good predictor for  $D$ .

#### Example 1.1: /linear\_classifier\_visualization

Being parallel to the hyperplane is the same as being orthogonal to the normal vector  $\vec{w}$ . Thus if the inner product between  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{w}$  is positive, then  $\vec{x}$  is on the same side of the hyperplane as  $\vec{w}$  and if it is negative, then it is on the other side. The separating plane can be thought of  $\{\vec{x} \in X | \langle \vec{w} | \vec{x} \rangle = b\}$

Make this in inkscape, 3D makes more sense

Every plane in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be characterized by its normal vector  $w$ , plus some offset  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  (i.e. how much you go from the origin along the normal vector before you hit the plane). We then classify by whether a vector in  $X$  is along the same direction as the normal vector with offset  $r$ , i.e.  $\langle w, x \rangle > r$ .