

# Machine learning and physical (Earth system) modelling - course 1

---

julien.brajard@nersc.no

June 2021

NERSC

slides+notebook:[https://github.com/nansencenter/nersc\\_ml\\_course](https://github.com/nansencenter/nersc_ml_course)

## References

-  Ian Goodfellow, Yoshua Bengio, and Aaron Courville.  
***Deep Learning.***  
MIT Press, 2016.  
<http://www.deeplearningbook.org>.
-  Jake VanderPlas.  
***Python Data Science Handbook: Essential Tools for Working with Data.***  
O'Reilly Media, Inc., 1st edition, 2016.

# Table of contents i

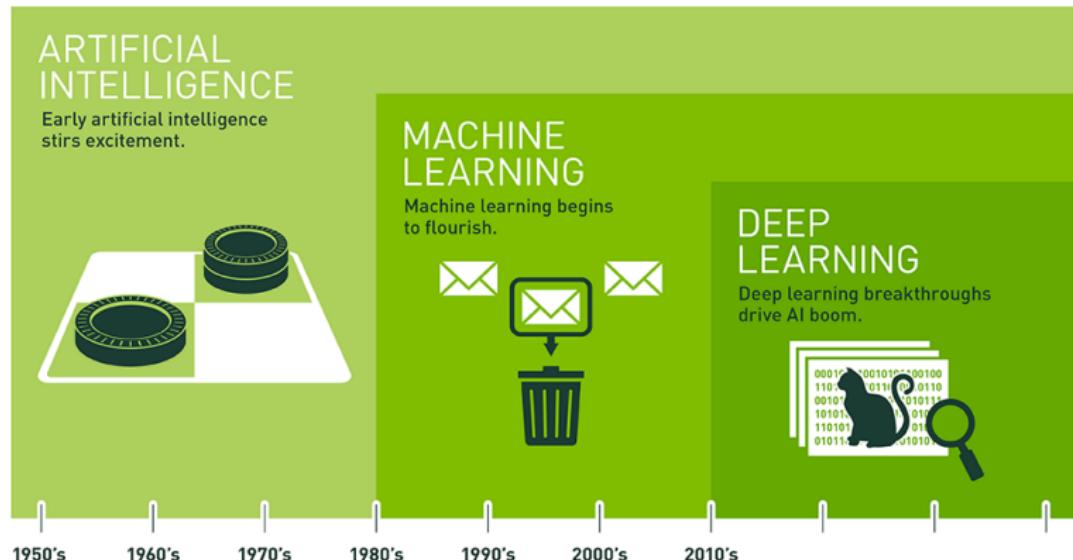
---

1. Introduction
2. Generalities on Machine Learning

# Introduction

---

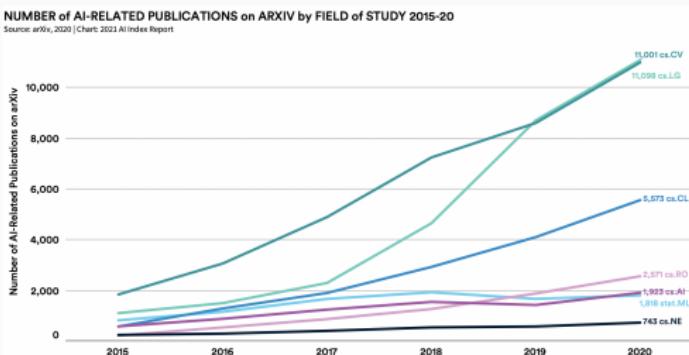
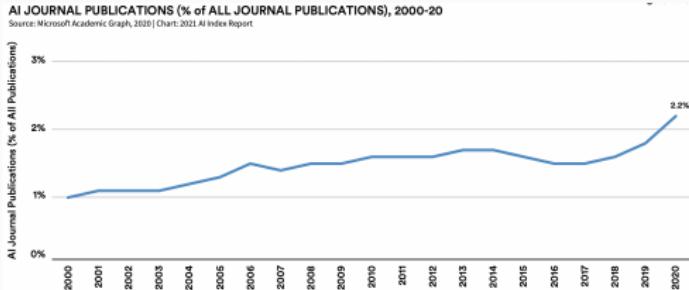
# Scope of the lecture: Machine Learning



Since an early flush of optimism in the 1950s, smaller subsets of artificial intelligence – first machine learning, then deep learning, a subset of machine learning – have created ever larger disruptions.

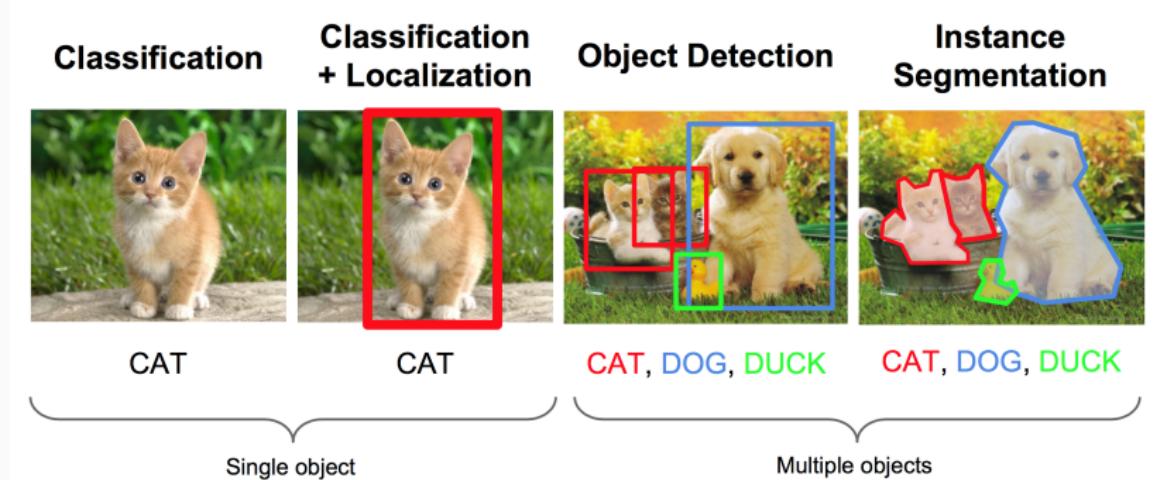
Source: NVidia

# A (very) active field



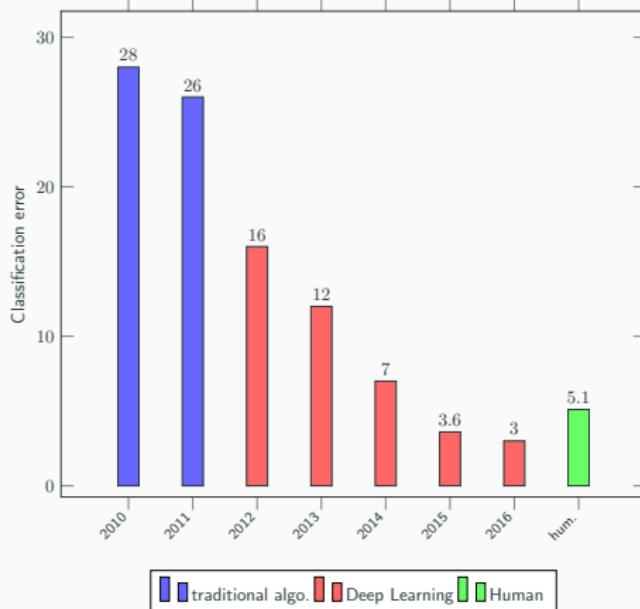
Zhang et al., "The AI Index 2021 Annual Report"

# Example 1: Computer Vision



*Li, Karpathy and Johnson, 2016, Stanford CS231n course*

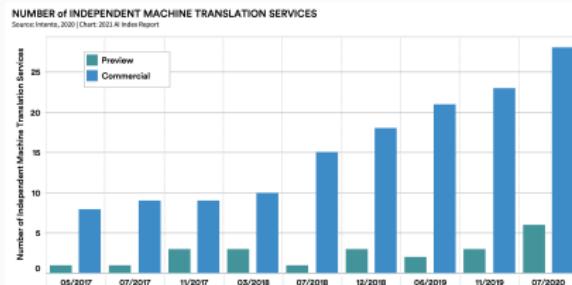
## Example 1: Computer Vision



Deep learning architectures were based on Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN).

## Example 2: Machine Translation

Objective : translate a text from a language to another.



Zhang et al., "The AI Index 2021 Annual Report"

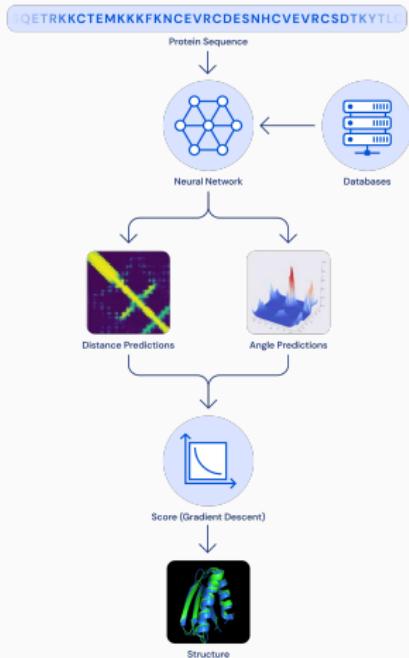
- **Oct. 2013:** Pionneering scientic paper (Kalchbrenner, N., and Blunsom, P.).
- **2016:** Neural machine translation outperform traditional approaches on public benchmarks
- **2017:** Major systems switch to neural machine translation (using deep recurrent neural networks)

## Example 3: Playing Games

- **1997:** Deep Blue defeats Kasparov at Chess.
- **2016:** AlphaGo's victory again Lee Sedol at Go.
- **2017:** AlphaGo Zero learns how to play Go only by playing against itself. It outperformed previous AlphaGo version (Reinforcement learning)
- **2017:** DeepStack beats professional human poker players.



## Example 4: Protein folding



*Diagram of Alpha Fold (source: Deepmind)*

# AI Art?

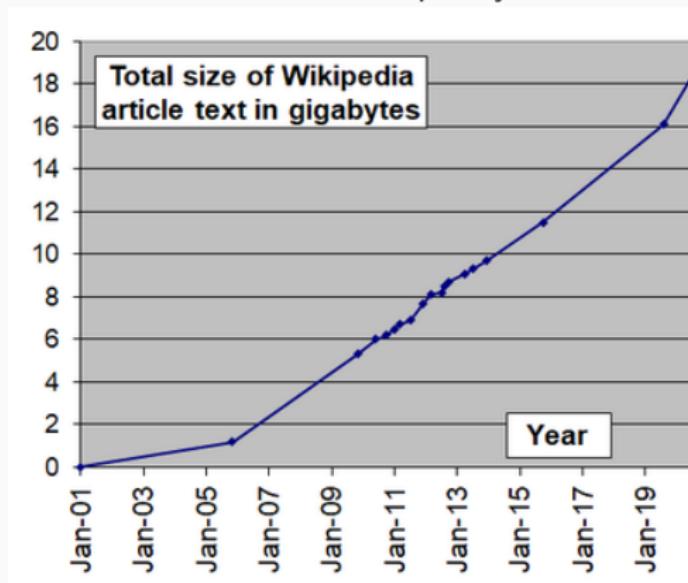


*Edmond de Bellamy* by Obvious(collective)

Generated using a Generative Adversarial Network.  
Selling price (Oct. 2018): \$432,000

## Reasons for these recent achievements?

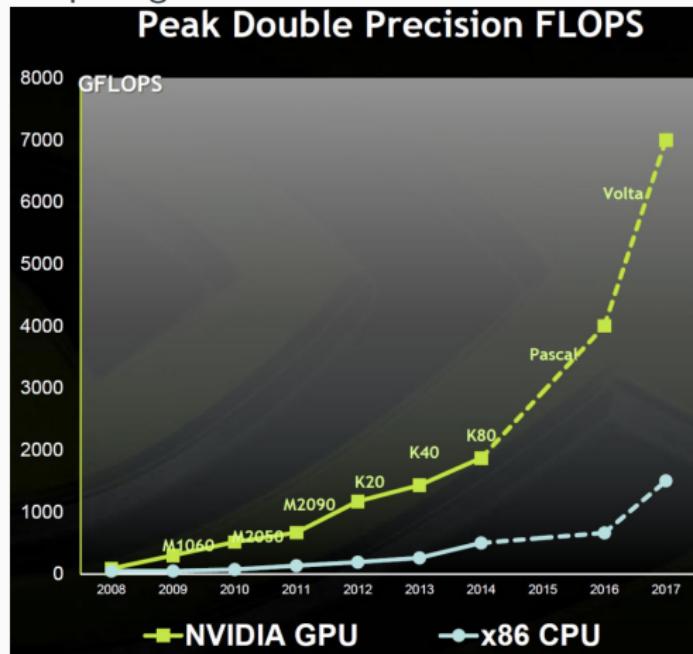
- Increasing of the datasets in size and quality



source: *Wikipedia*

# Reasons for these recent achievements?

- Increasing of the datasets in size and quality
- Progress in computing resources.



source: NVIDIA

# Reasons for these recent achievements?

- Increasing of the datasets in size and quality
- Progress in computing resources.
- Scientific research on new algorithms (e.g adapted to image processing)



*source: Deep Dream Generator*

## Reasons for these recent achievements?

- Increasing of the datasets in size and quality
- Progress in computing resources.
- Scientific research on new algorithms (e.g adapted to image processing)
- Very efficient software (GPU, cloud computing, automatic differentiation, ...)



## Reasons for these recent achievements?

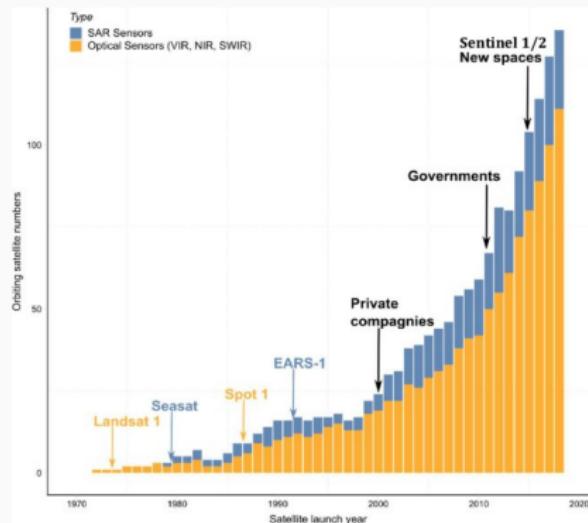
- Increasing of the datasets in size and quality
- Progress in computing resources.
- Scientific research on new algorithms (e.g adapted to image processing)
- Very efficient software (GPU, cloud computing, automatic differentiation, ...)
- Free software and open data culture.



# Apply Machine-Learning to physical (Earth-system) modelling?

## Why is it a good idea?

- A increasing number of geophysical data (one spatial mission: 24 TB/day)

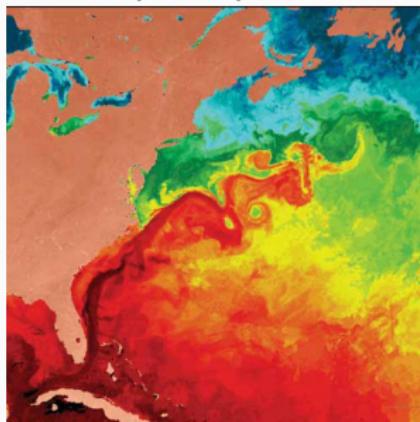


Earth System observation satellites

# Apply Machine-Learning to physical (Earth-system) modelling?

## Why is it a good idea?

- A increasing number of geophysical data (one spatial mission: 24 TB/day)
- Data with highly significant spatial patterns



Sea Surface temperature of the gulf stream

source: *Talley (2000)*

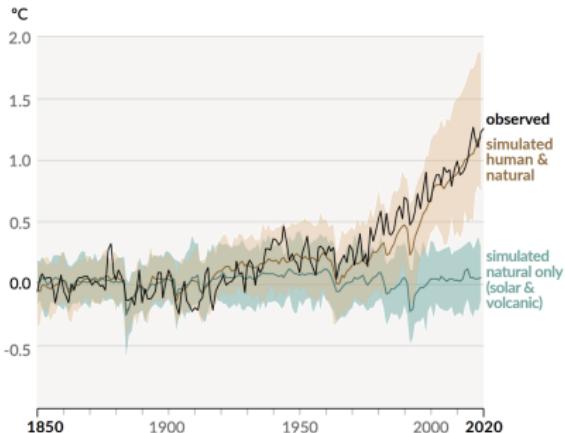
# Why is physical modelling specific?

NASDAQ Composite sock market index  
over the last 10 years



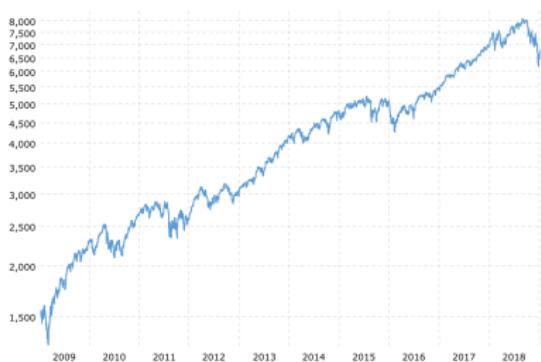
Figure 1: IPCC, AR6, WG1

b) Change in global surface temperature (annual average) as observed and simulated using **human & natural** and **only natural** factors (both 1850-2020)



# Why is physical modelling specific?

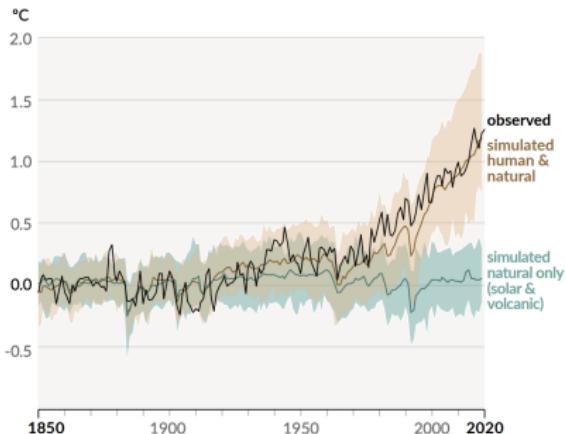
NASDAQ Composite sock market index  
over the last 10 years



Mostly unknown dynamical processes

Figure 1: IPCC, AR6, WG1

b) Change in global surface temperature (annual average) as observed and simulated using **human & natural** and **only natural** factors (both 1850-2020)



Mostly known dynamical processes  
(based on physical principles)

# What about data assimilation?

---

Machine learning and data assimilation are closely linked.

Some references:

- Geer, A.J., 2021. Learning earth system models from observations: machine learning or data assimilation?. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A*, 379(2194)
- Brajard et al. 2019. Connections between data assimilation and machine learning to emulate a numerical model. *Proceedings of the 9th International Workshop on Climate informatics*
- Bocquet et al. 2019. Data assimilation as a learning tool to infer ordinary differential equation representations of dynamical models. *Nonlinear processes in geophysics*. 26(3).
- Abarbanel, H.D., Rozdeba, P.J. and Shirman, S., 2018. Machine learning: Deepest learning as statistical data assimilation problems. *Neural computation*, 30(8).

# **Generalities on Machine Learning**

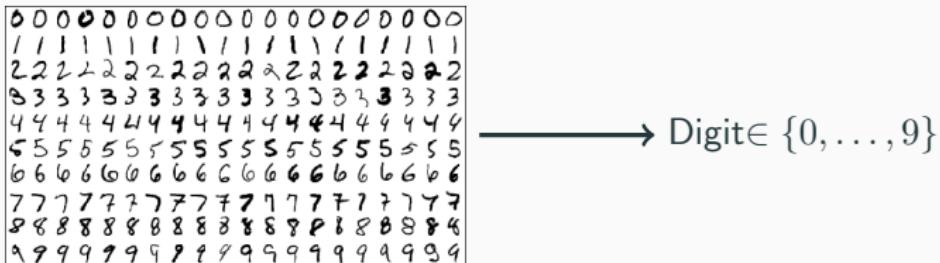
---

# What is this about ?

Can we extract knowledge, make some predictions, determine a "model" using this large amount of data ?

## What is this about ?

Can we extract knowledge, make some predictions, determine a "model" using this large amount of data ?



## Base of images

# What is this about ?

Can we extract knowledge, make some predictions, determine a "model" using this large amount of data ?



Digit  $\in \{0, \dots, 9\}$

Base of images

- From high dimensional data (thousands to millions dimensions) to reduced dimensional data (less than 100)
- From disorganized data to comprehensive information
- Can we teach a machine how to do that ?

# Two classes of Machine Learning problems

---

1. **Regression:** Determination of a quantitative variable from a set of data
  - The price of a building from various predictors (Surface, ...)
  - A physical value (Temperature, humidity, ...) in the future knowing the past
  - ...

# Two classes of Machine Learning problems

---

1. **Regression:** Determination of a quantitative variable from a set of data
  - The price of a building from various predictors (Surface, ...)
  - A physical value (Temperature, humidity, ...) in the future knowing the past
  - ...
2. **Classification:** Determination of a class
  - A digit from a image
  - Identification of the content of an image
  - ...

## Two types of objectives

---

1. **Supervised learning**: we have a set of labeled data with examples of targets.

## Two types of objectives

---

1. **Supervised learning**: we have a set of labeled data with examples of targets.
2. **Unsupervised learning**: we only have unlabeled data, we have no examples of what we want to obtain. We want to extract a "useful" representation of these data, or some coherent categories.

## Two types of objectives

---

1. **Supervised learning**: we have a set of labeled data with examples of targets.
2. **Unsupervised learning**: we only have unlabeled data, we have no examples of what we want to obtain. We want to extract a "useful" representation of these data, or some coherent categories.
  - Determine typical behaviors of clients in a supermarket knowing what they have bought.

## Two types of objectives

---

1. **Supervised learning**: we have a set of labeled data with examples of targets.
2. **Unsupervised learning**: we only have unlabeled data, we have no examples of what we want to obtain. We want to extract a "useful" representation of these data, or some coherent categories.
  - Determine typical behaviors of clients in a supermarket knowing what they have bought.
3. **Semi-Supervised Learning**: Only a few subset of the data are labeled

## Two types of objectives

---

1. **Supervised learning**: we have a set of labeled data with examples of targets.
2. **Unsupervised learning**: we only have unlabeled data, we have no examples of what we want to obtain. We want to extract a "useful" representation of these data, or some coherent categories.
  - Determine typical behaviors of clients in a supermarket knowing what they have bought.
3. **Semi-Supervised Learning**: Only a few subset of the data are labeled
4. **Reinforcement Learning**: We can initiate and observe the interaction of an agent with its environment. We want to optimize the behavior of the agent.

## Two types of objectives

---

1. **Supervised learning**: we have a set of labeled data with examples of targets.
2. **Unsupervised learning**: we only have unlabeled data, we have no examples of what we want to obtain. We want to extract a "useful" representation of these data, or some coherent categories.
  - Determine typical behaviors of clients in a supermarket knowing what they have bought.
3. **Semi-Supervised Learning**: Only a few subset of the data are labeled
4. **Reinforcement Learning**: We can initiate and observe the interaction of an agent with its environment. We want to optimize the behavior of the agent.
  - Playing a chess game.

## A Machine

$$y = \mathcal{M}(x, \theta)$$

- $x$ : input
- $y$ : output
- $\mathcal{M}$ : a model (named "machine")
- $\theta$  : parameters of the model  $\mathcal{M}$ .

Machine learning consists in optimizing  $\theta$  using a set of data. This is the training process.

# The Machine Learning recipe

## A Machine

$$y = \mathcal{M}(x, \theta)$$

What are **the ingredients?**

# The Machine Learning recipe

## A Machine

$$y = \mathcal{M}(x, \theta)$$

What are **the ingredients?**

- Some **data**
  - $x, y$  : supervised learning
  - only  $x$ : unsupervised learning
  - $x$  and some subset of  $y$ :  
semi-supervised learning

# The Machine Learning recipe

## A Machine

$$y = \mathcal{M}(x, \theta)$$

What are **the ingredients?**

- Some **data**
  - $x, y$  : supervised learning
  - only  $x$ : unsupervised learning
  - $x$  and some subset of  $y$ : semi-supervised learning
- An **objective**
  - $y$  is quantitative: regression
  - $y$  is a class: classification

# The Machine Learning recipe

## A Machine

$$y = \mathcal{M}(x, \theta)$$

What are **the ingredients?**

- Some **data**
  - $x, y$  : supervised learning
  - only  $x$ : unsupervised learning
  - $x$  and some subset of  $y$ : semi-supervised learning
- An **objective**
  - $y$  is quantitative: regression
  - $y$  is a class: classification
- A computational architecture (the **machine**)
  - linear
  - non-linear
  - neural networks, random forest, ...

# The Machine Learning recipe

## A Machine

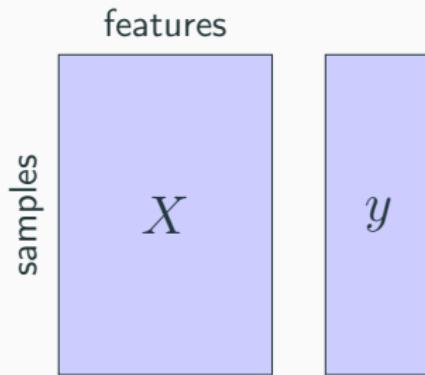
$$y = \mathcal{M}(x, \theta)$$

What are **the ingredients?**

- Some **data**
  - $x, y$  : supervised learning
  - only  $x$ : unsupervised learning
  - $x$  and some subset of  $y$ : semi-supervised learning
- An **objective**
  - $y$  is quantitative: regression
  - $y$  is a class: classification
- A computational architecture (the **machine**)
  - linear
  - non-linear
  - neural networks, random forest, ...
- A **learning** process
  - Estimation of  $\theta$

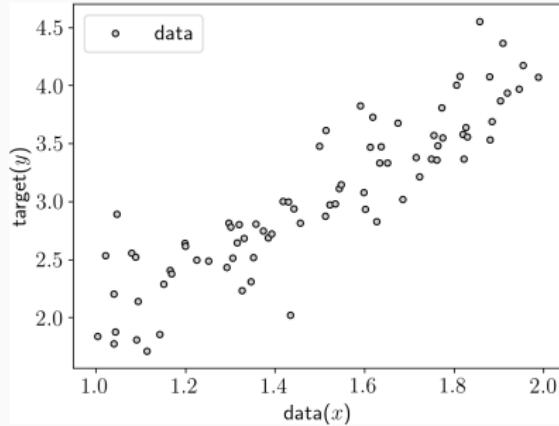
# Multidimensional data

Generally, we have multidimensional data  $X$  and a one-dimensional target  $y$ .



# An illustration

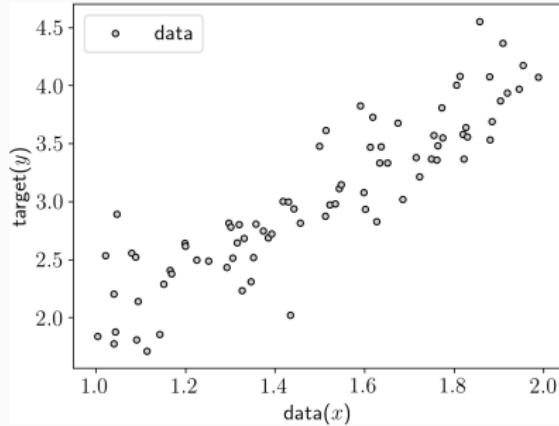
- Some Data



- there are labeled  $y$ : supervised learning
- $y$  is quantitative: regression

# An illustration

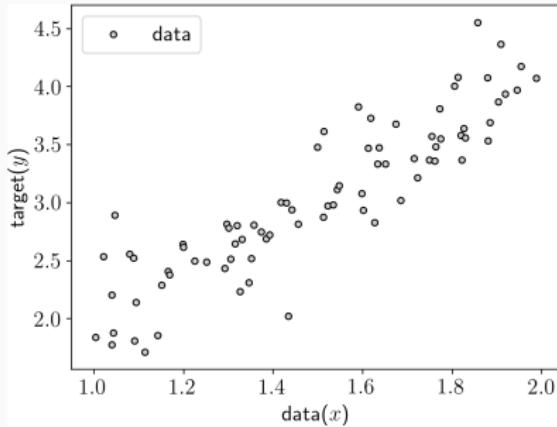
- Some Data



- there are labeled  $y$ : supervised learning
- $y$  is quantitative: regression
- An Objective: Estimate  $\hat{y}$  from  $x$  by minimizing  $(\hat{y} - y)^2$  (Least-square objective)

# An illustration

- Some Data

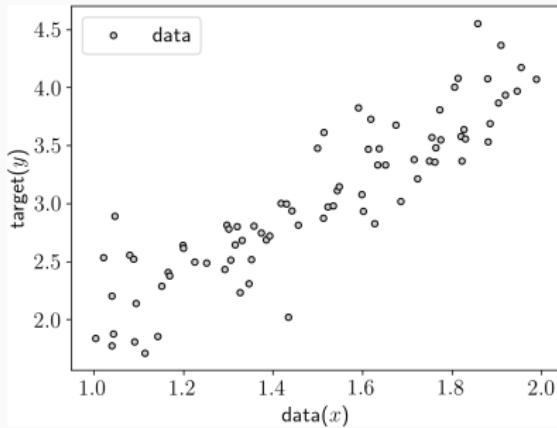


- A model:  $\hat{y} = \theta_1 X + \theta_0$  (linear)

- there are labeled  $y$ : supervised learning
- $y$  is quantitative: regression
- An Objective: Estimate  $\hat{y}$  from  $x$  by minimizing  $(\hat{y} - y)^2$  (Least-square objective)

# An illustration

- Some Data

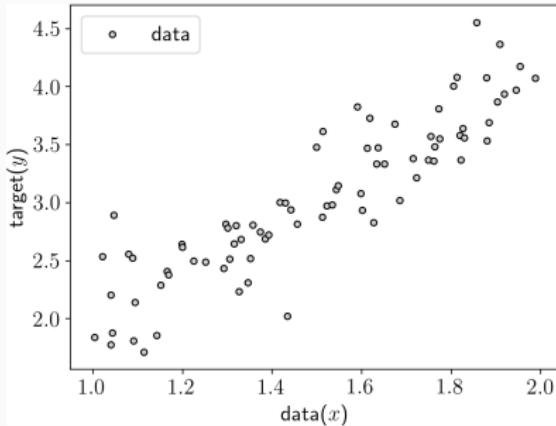


- A model:  $\hat{y} = \theta_1 X + \theta_0$  (linear)
- A learning process:  
$$\theta = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T y$$

- there are labeled  $y$ : supervised learning
- $y$  is quantitative: regression
- An Objective: Estimate  $\hat{y}$  from  $x$  by minimizing  $(\hat{y} - y)^2$  (Least-square objective)

# An illustration

- Some Data



- there are labeled  $y$ : supervised learning
- $y$  is quantitative: regression
- An Objective: Estimate  $\hat{y}$  from  $x$  by minimizing  $(\hat{y} - y)^2$  (Least-square objective)

- A model:  $\hat{y} = \theta_1 X + \theta_0$  (linear)
- A learning process:  
$$\theta = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T y$$

## Result

