

The Statistical Approach

(Statistical = Information-theoretic.)

- Specify a probabilistic model.
 - = How is the probability mass distributed among possible outputs given observed inputs.
- Specify the training criterion and procedure.
 - = How to learn free parameters from training data.

Notice:

- Linguistics helpful when designing the models:
 - How to divide input into smaller units.
 - Which bits of observations are more informative.