

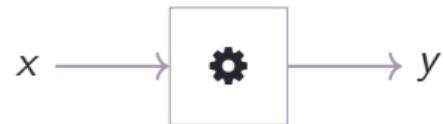
Lecture 1

Welcome & Intro

Part 1: What This Course Is About

Machine Learning for Structured Data
Vlad Niculae · LTL, UvA · <https://vene.ro/mlsd>

Machine Learning



Understanding, choosing, designing:

- models
- learning algorithms
- evaluation metrics
- experiment methodology

to learn and evaluate mappings
from inputs x to outputs y .

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... for Structured Data



structure, noun: *the way in which a complex object's parts are organized in relationship to one another.*

Many objects we want to do ML on
have interesting structure:

language, images, shapes, networks...

This course: how to make use of structure
in the input and the output.

Machine Learning

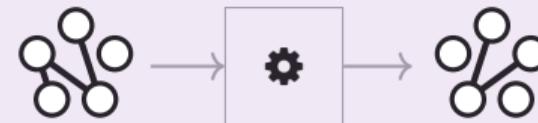


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we'll look a bit deeper, at the timeless underlying principles.
- Structure is common in many domains: we will explore several.
Language, Vision, Biology, Material Science, Social Science...
- Notation: There *will* be differences between classes, books, blogs. Don't assume the same symbol always means the same thing. If in doubt, ask.

Machine Learning Recap

Definition: Supervised ML Task

Find an accurate mapping from x to y
from a labeled dataset $\{(x^{(1)}, y^{(1)}), \dots, (x^{(N)}, y^{(N)})\}$

Terminology and notation.

symbol explanation

$x \in \mathcal{X}$ *input object*

example

measurements of a penguin:
(flipper length, bill length, bill depth)
 $[181, 39.1, 18.7] \in \mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^3$

$y \in \mathcal{Y}$ *output label*: the desired true ("gold") output

penguin species
 $\mathcal{Y} = \{\text{Chinstrap, Gentoo, Adélie}\}$

$\{f_\theta : \theta \in \Theta\}$ model class / architecture / family

linear classifier $f_\theta(x) = Wx + b$

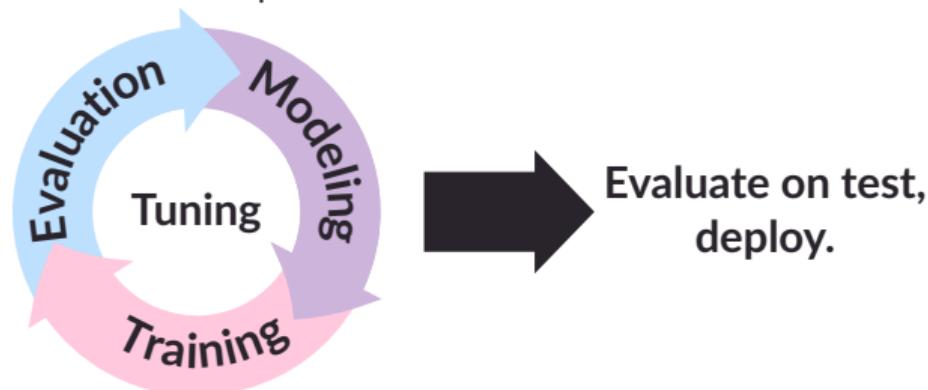
$\theta \in \Theta$ *model parameters* (weights)

$\theta = (W, b)$

ML design

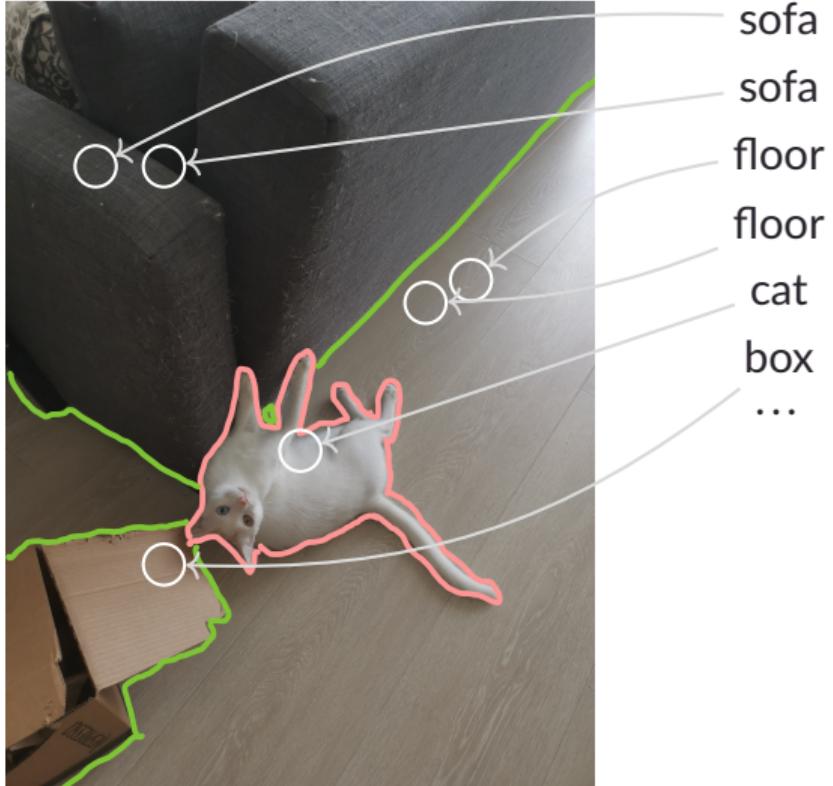
Many choices to make when approaching a ML task.

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| modeling: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• architecture f• data encoding• regularization | (linear model? neural network? decision tree? ...)
(pixel values? bag-of-words? ...)
($\ \cdot\ _2^2$? dropout? ...) |
| training: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• training objective / loss• learning algorithm | (logistic? hinge? perceptron? ...)
(SGD? Adam? L-BFGS? ...) |
| evaluation: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• metrics• visualizations / reports | (accuracy? precision? F_1 ? ...) |
| tuning: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• validation split / cross-validation | |

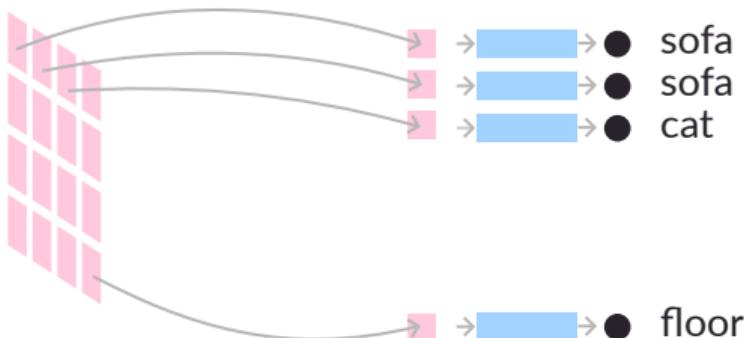


Case Study: Semantic Image Segmentation

Classify every pixel according to the object it is a part of.



Case Study: Semantic Image Segmentation



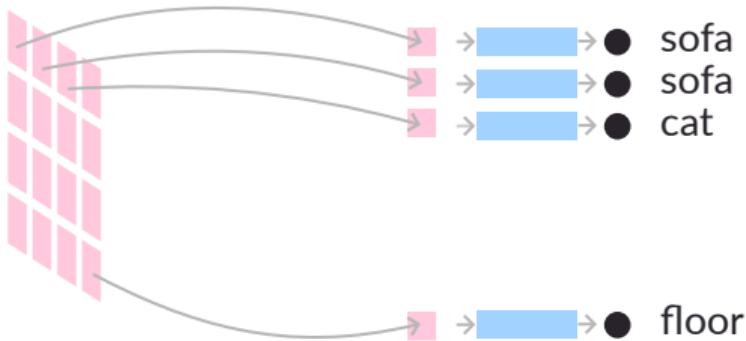
How to model this?

A first idea

$x \in \mathbb{R}^3$ a pixel RGB, e.g., $x = (255, 60, 30)$

$y \in \{ \text{cat, sofa, floor, box, ...} \}$

Case Study: Semantic Image Segmentation



How to model this?

A first idea

$x \in \mathbb{R}^3$ a pixel RGB, e.g., $x = (255, 60, 30)$

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Acts as if pixels are “IID”:
(independent & identically distributed)

What does this mean, and does it apply?

Case Study: Semantic Image Segmentation



How to model this?

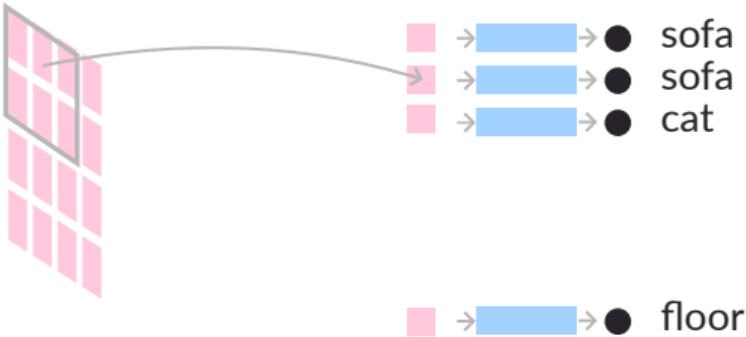
Idea 2: Some structured input context

$x \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d \times 3}$ a pixel patch of pixels

$y \in \{ \text{cat, sofa, ...} \}$ label of patch center

Structured context helps resolve ambiguous pixels.

Case Study: Semantic Image Segmentation



How to model this?

Idea 2: Some structured input context

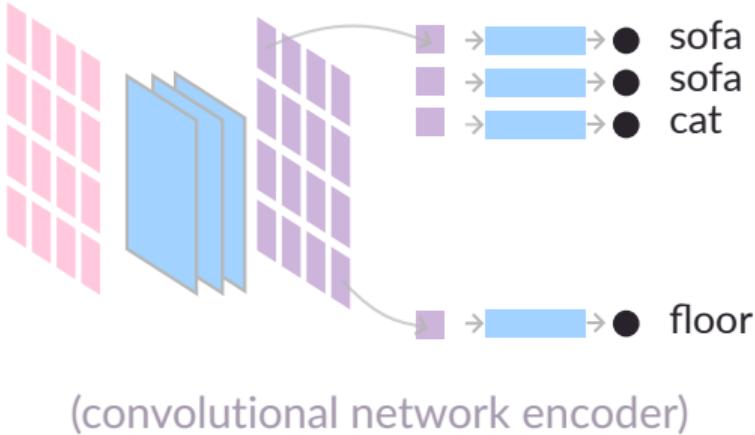
$x \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d \times 3}$ a pixel patch of pixels

$y \in \{ \text{cat, sofa, ...} \}$ label of patch center

Structured context helps resolve ambiguous pixels.

But, only interactions are between nearby pixels.

Case Study: Semantic Image Segmentation



How to model this?

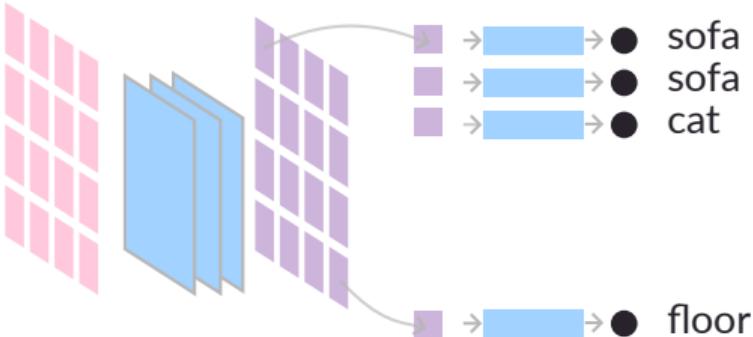
Idea 3: Structured input context – to the max

$x \in \mathbb{R}^{W \times H \times 3}$, an entire image.

encode the image with a structure-aware deep network
(extract patches, recombine, extract again...)

$y \in \{ \text{cat, sofa, floor, box, ...} \}^{W \times H}$

Case Study: Semantic Image Segmentation



(convolutional network encoder)

How to model this?

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Make predictions independently for each pixel, but
based on *rich representations* of each pixel, that are
informed by wider context.

The richer we want the context to be, the larger & more
expensive the network needs to be.

Outputs can have structure, too!

$$y = \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & c & c & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & c & c & c & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & c & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & b & b \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & b & b \end{pmatrix}$$

- Adjacent labels likely to be the same.
- Nearby labels help disambiguate each other.



@amauryguichon

(image from Amaury Guichon's instagram)

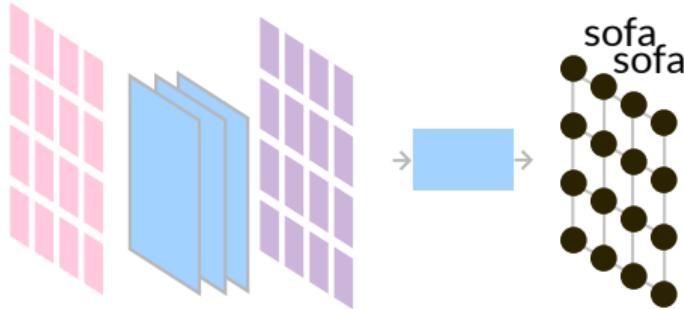


mirror / knife?
drum / cake?

@amauryguichon

(image from Amaury Guichon's instagram)

Case Study: Semantic Image Segmentation



(Markov Random Field)

How to model this?

Idea 4: Using output structure

$x \in \mathbb{R}^{W \times H \times 3}$, an entire image.

encode as we want (CNN, simple patches...)

$y \in \{ \text{cat, sofa, floor, box, ...} \}^{W \times H}$

Predict **independently jointly** over the entire image.

Labels **self-correct** to agree with neighbors.

Which of these models do you know how to train?

1. Pixel-to-label

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(covered in first half of this course)

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preprocess images into a patch-level dataset, apply any clf
3. Convolutional net encoder?
(covered in first half of this course)
4. Markov Random Field? (interdependent outputs)

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4. Markov Random Field? (interdependent outputs)

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How to evaluate?

$y^{(k)} \in L^{W \times H}$, $L = \{\text{Floor}, \text{Cat}, \dots\}$, collection of labels for entire image.

$$\text{predicted } \hat{y}^{(k)} = \begin{pmatrix} F & F & F & F \\ F & F & C & F \\ F & C & F & F \\ F & F & F & F \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{true } y^{(k)} = \begin{pmatrix} F & F & F & F \\ F & C & C & F \\ F & C & C & F \\ F & F & F & F \end{pmatrix}.$$

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- zero-one accuracy (unstructured standard): $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \mathbb{I}[\hat{y}^{(k)} = y^{(k)}]$

Notation: $\mathbb{I}[q] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } q \text{ is true} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ “Iverson bracket”

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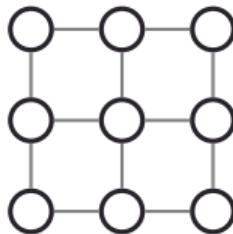
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Structured evaluation needs more consideration than unstructured.

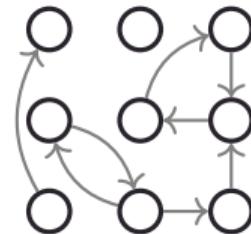
A few examples of structure



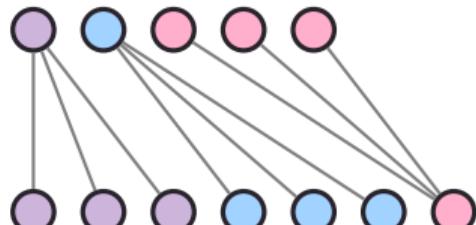
Sequence



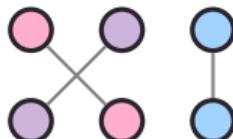
Grid



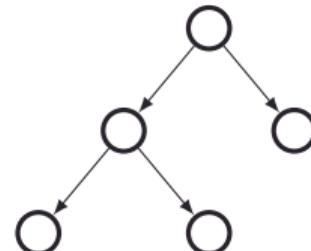
Graph



Alignments

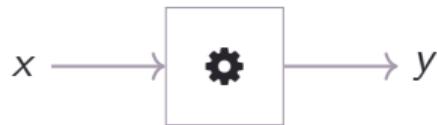


Permutations



Hierarchy

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