

(Discussion to Tut 0 solns: Monday  
1:30 Pm at F.C.Kohl.)

Introduction to Machine Learning

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Lecture 2 - Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning  
and Method of Least Squares

# Supervised vs Unsupervised

**Task:** Given a basket of fresh fruits, you are asked to identify the *type* of each fruit in the basket

*Eg:* apple, banana, cherry, grape

## Case: 1

- **Observations:** Size (parametrised using length, breadth, etc.), Shape, Color, weight, density, volume, second order features, redundant

# Supervised vs Unsupervised

**Task:** Given a basket of fresh fruits, you are asked to identify the *type* of each fruit in the basket

*Eg:* apple, banana, cherry, grape

## Case: 1

- **Observations:** Size (parametrised using length, breadth, *etc.*), Shape, Color. . . .
- **Train data:** Fruits in the basket along with their labels
- **Goal:** Develop ability to assign labels to new fruits based on **observations** made on them *without labels*
- **Supervised Learning:** Achieve the **Goal** by learning from **Train data**

## Case 2:

*no training data*

- Given no **label** on each fruit, could you organize the basket by clubbing together fruits of the same type?
- *E.g.::* Group together fruits that exhibit similar shape or color
- Groupings on the basis of *color*:

*cherry, apple --*

## Case 2:

- Given no **label** on each fruit, could you organize the basket by clubbing together fruits of the same type?
- *E.g.:* Group together fruits that exhibit similar shape or color
- Groupings on the basis of *color*:
  - **Red Color Group**: Apples and cheery
  - **Green Color Group**: Bananas and grapes
- Groupings on the basis of *size*:

## Case 2:

- Given no **label** on each fruit, could you organize the basket by clubbing together fruits of the same type?
- E.g.: Group together fruits that exhibit similar shape or color
- Groupings on the basis of *color*:
  - **Red Color Group**: Apples and cheery
  - **Green Color Group**: Bananas and grapes
- Groupings on the basis of *size*:
  - **Red color and big size**: Apple
  - **Red color and small size**: Cheery
  - **Green color and big Size**: Banana
  - **Green color and small Size**: Grapes
- This is **unsupervised learning**

Cross product of 2 observations

New observations could include taste

In case there is ambiguity (eg: big lemon & small orange)  
↳ You can factor in more observations  
↳ You can develop "models of probabilistic membership"

In fact, even Supervised learning could benefit from

↳ More observations

More attributes  
such as taste

More labeled  
examples

↳ Probabilistic models of

uncertainty / certainty

$1 - \text{Pr}(\text{orange})$

$\text{Pr}(\text{orange})$

# Key Difference between Supervised and Unsupervised Learning



Supervised learning

Another unsupervised setting:

Identifying a good subset of attributes from a somewhat redundant set



Un-supervised Learning

Redundant set

= { volume, wt, density, length, breadth ... }

- Supervised learning  $\Rightarrow$  Observed output is specified in the sample
- Unsupervised learning  $\Rightarrow$  Desired output is unobserved



Coconut



length, volume, wt

I might find  
them less correlated  
for coconut

apple



length, volume, wt

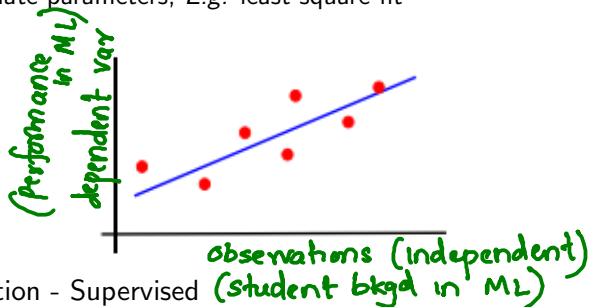
I might find them  
to be highly correlated  
for apple

∴ Attribute subset selection could  
be benefitted through supervision!

# Three Canonical Learning Settings

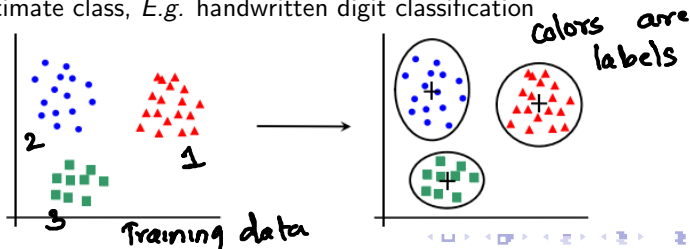
## 1 Regression - Supervised

- Estimate parameters, *E.g.* least square fit



## 2 Classification - Supervised

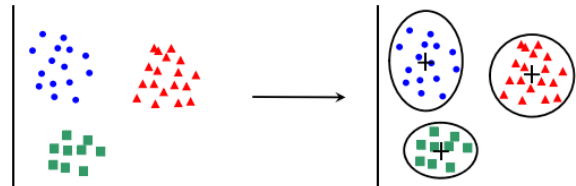
- Estimate class, *E.g.* handwritten digit classification



# Three Canonical Learning Settings (contd.)

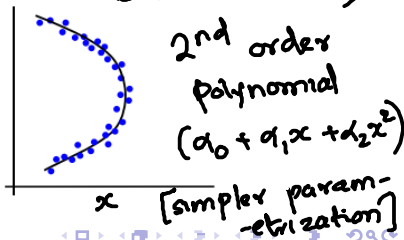
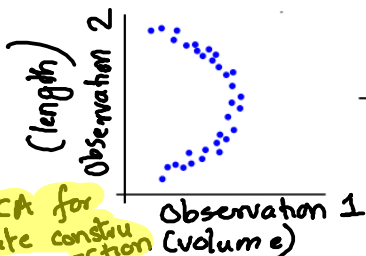
## 3 Unsupervised Learning - Model the data

- clustering (imagine colors don't exist)



- dimensionality reduction

(attribute subset selection is an instance)



Eg: PCA for attribute construction

# Supervised Learning: More formally

Functions  $F$

Training Data

$$f: X \rightarrow Y \quad \{ (x^i, y^i) \in X \times Y \}$$

$i$  is example index

Supervised Learning

Functions  $F$

Training Data

$$f: X \rightarrow Y \quad \{ (x^i, y^i) \in X \times Y \}$$

Eg:  $F =$  linear models  
Uncountably infinite

space of functions ( $F$ ) in which to search for  $\hat{f}$

Requirement for generalization (Prob theory, optimization)

LEARNING

find  $\hat{f} \in F$   
s.t.  $y_i \approx \hat{f}(x_i)$



Learning machine

PREDICTION

$y = \hat{f}(x)$

New data

$x$

Eg  $F =$  decision trees  
finite but too large

Training

$$\{(x_i, y_i)\} \xrightarrow{\text{learn}} f \in \mathcal{F}$$

Generalization

Desirable is

$$f(x_{\text{new}}) \approx y_{\text{new}}$$

→ a new apple from Thailand

Probability ↓

① For any  $x_{\text{new}}$  which comes close to distribution over  $x_i$ , I want  $\Pr(y_{\text{new}} | x_{\text{new}})$   
 $x_{\text{new}} \in \mathcal{P}(x_i)$  apples from Kashmir  $\sim \Pr(y_i | x_i)$

Optimization (code aspect)

② For any  $x_{\text{new}}$  which is "close" in some metric/distance to  $x_i$ 's (i.e.  $d(x_{\text{new}}, x_i) < \theta$ )  
I would like  $y_{\text{new}} = \text{closest } y_i \text{ as per } d_x(y_i, y_{\text{new}})$

# Optimisation in clustering (unsupervised)

Find groups such that

(intra group)  $\rightarrow$  Similarity within each group  
is MAXIMIZED

(inter group)  $\rightarrow$  Similarity across groups  
is MINIMIZED

- **Machine Learning in General**

- Supervised Learning
- Unsupervised Learning
- Applications and examples

- **Canonical Learning Problems**

- Regression Supervised
- Classification Supervised
- Unsupervised modeling of data

We will develop many tools using this canonical example

eg optimization

② Generalization using optimization such as regularization, Bayesian inference

③ Parametric vs non-param learning

④ Non-linear models via the kernel trick & duality

⑤ Dimensionality reduction