

Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad



Introduction to Machine Learning Introduction

By

Dr. Shiv Ram Dubey

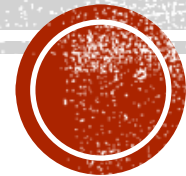
Associate Professor

Computer Vision and Biometrics Lab

Department of Information Technology

Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad

Web: <https://profile.iita.ac.in/srdubey/>



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Course Website

<https://profile.iiita.ac.in/srdubey/teaching/iml2026/>

Everything you need to know is there:

- Syllabus
- Lecture Slides
- TA Details
- Textbook and other references
- Grading, Course Ethics, etc.

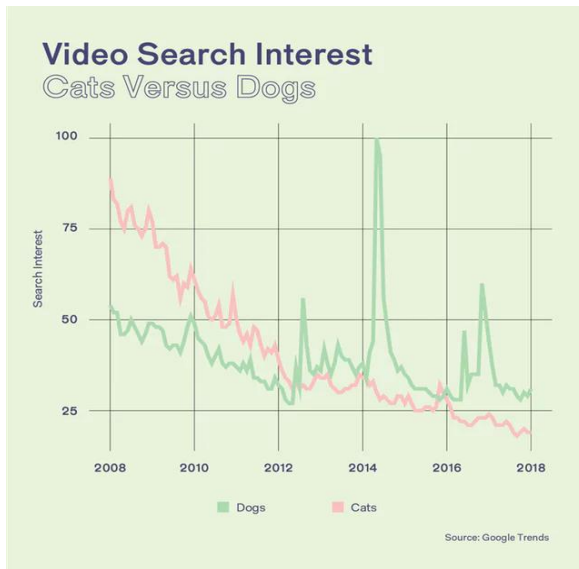
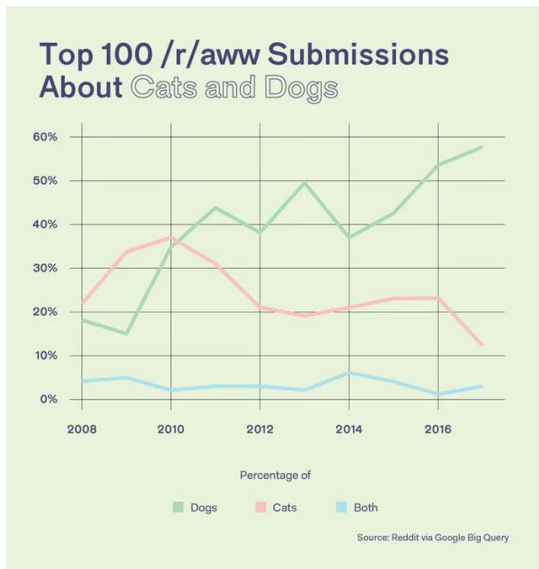
Traditional Algorithms

Social media mentions of Cats vs. Dogs

Reddit

Google

Twitter? 



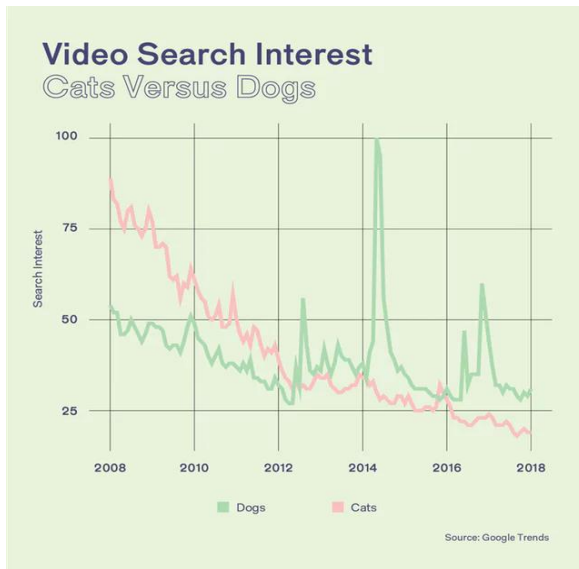
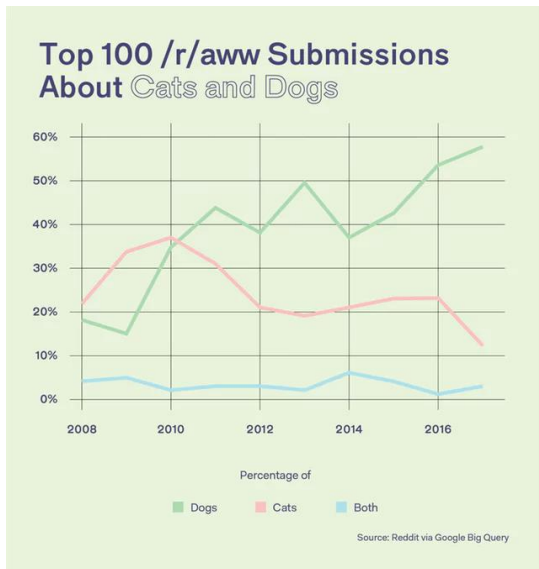
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Write a program that sorts tweets into those containing “cat”, “dog”, or *other*

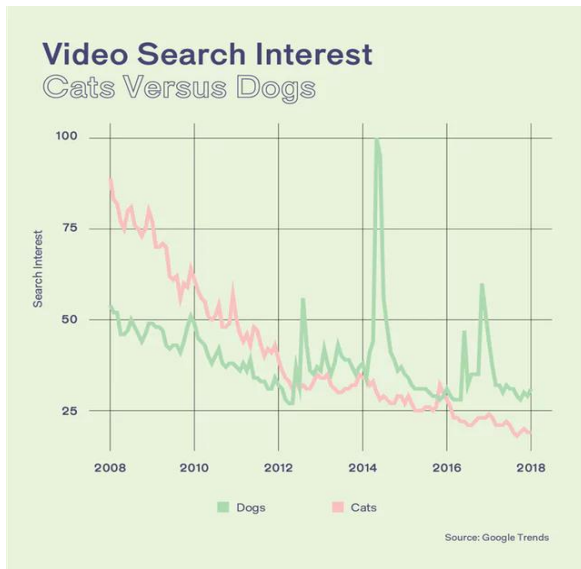
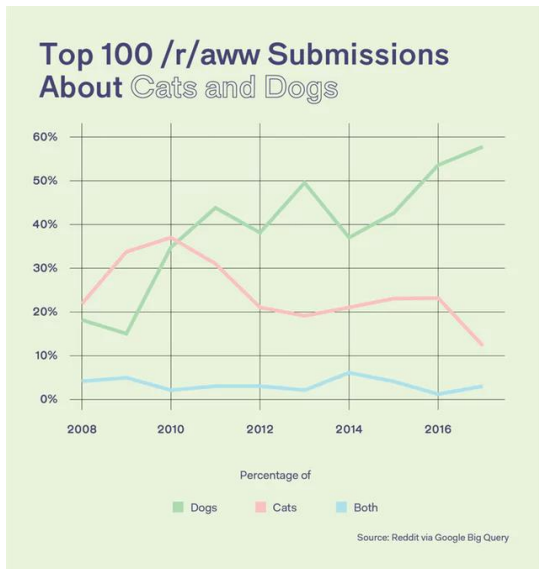
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```
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dogs = []
other = []

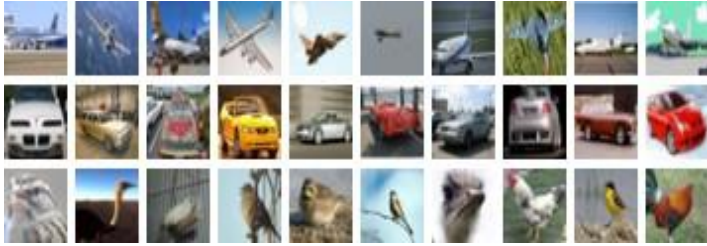
for tweet in tweets:
    if "cat" in tweet:
        cats.append(tweet)
    elif "dog" in tweet:
        dogs.append(tweet)
    else:
        other.append(tweet)

return cats, dogs, other
```

Write a program that sorts tweets into those containing “cat”, “dog”, or *other*

Machine Learning Algorithms

Write a program that sorts images into those containing “birds”, “airplanes”, or *other*.



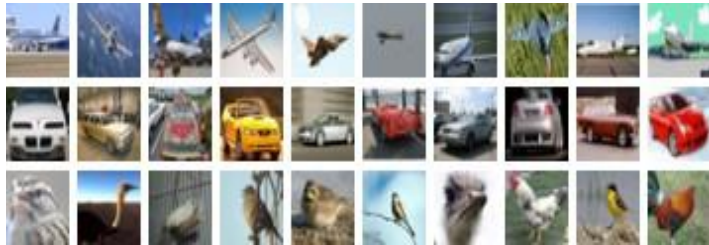
airplane

other

bird

Machine Learning Algorithms

Write a program that sorts **images** into those containing “**birds**”, “**airplanes**”, or ***other***.



airplane

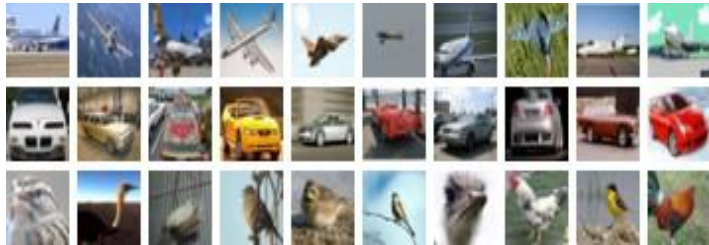
other

bird

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Machine Learning Algorithms

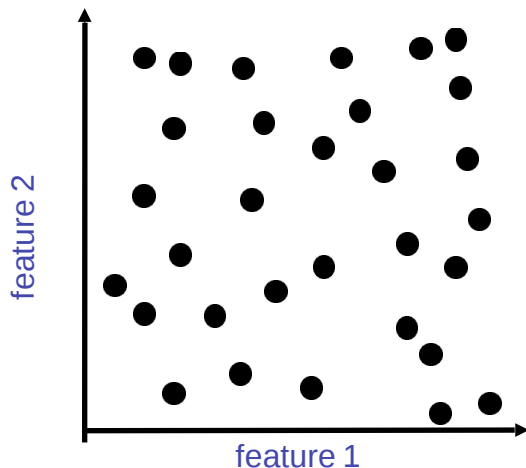
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airplane

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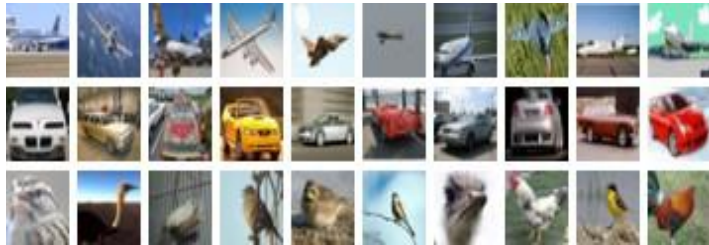
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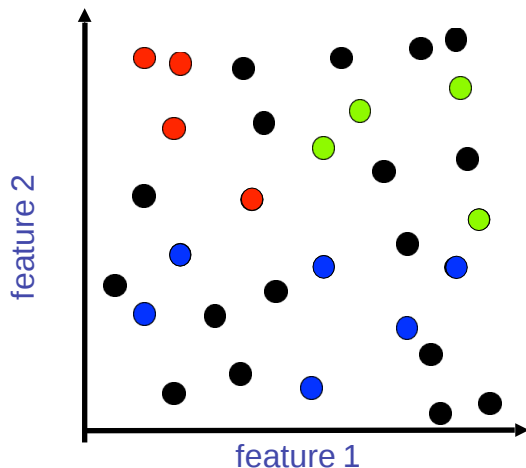
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airplane ●

other ●

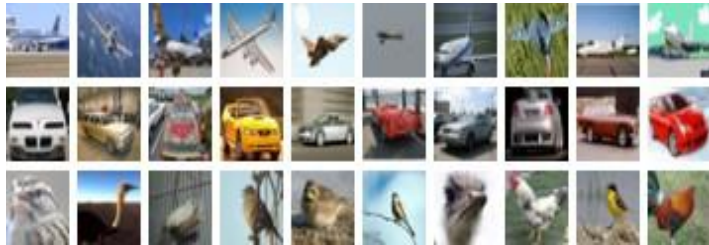
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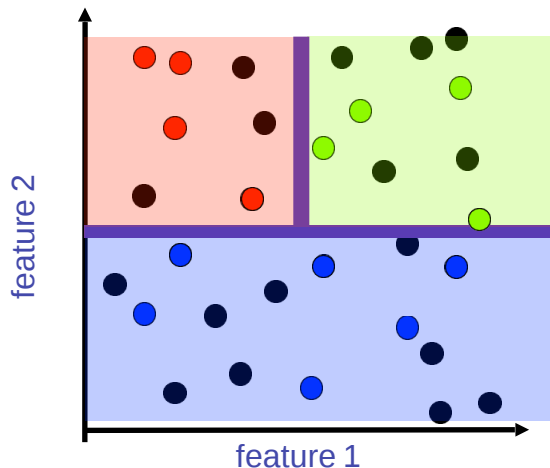
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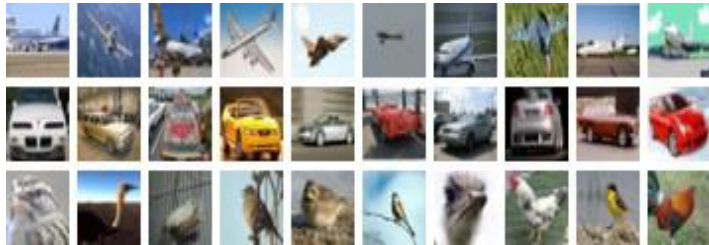
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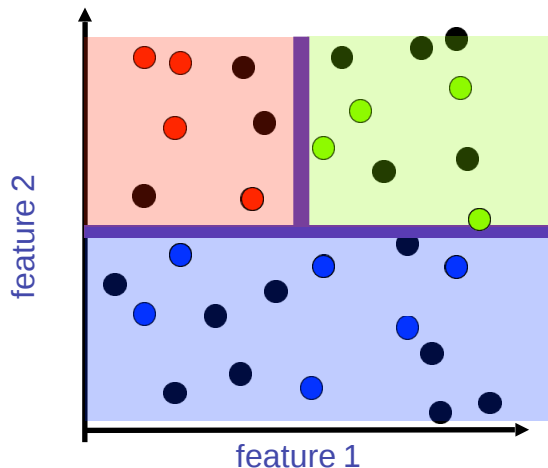
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    elif plane in image:
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    else: ...
```

The decision rule of
if “cat” in tweet:
is hard coded by expert.

The decision rule of
if bird in image:
is **LEARNED** using DATA

Machine Learning

- Grew out of work in AI
- New capability for computers

Machine Learning

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- New capability for computers

Examples:

- Database mining

Large datasets from growth of automation/web.

E.g., Web click data, medical records, biology, engineering

- Applications can't program by hand.

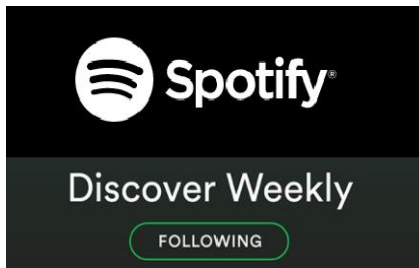
E.g., Autonomous helicopter, handwriting recognition, most of Natural Language Processing (NLP), Computer Vision.

Machine Learning

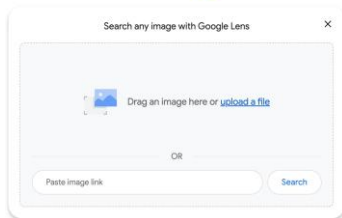
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- New capability for computers

Examples:

- Database mining
 - Large datasets from growth of automation/web.
 - E.g., Web click data, medical records, biology, engineering
- Applications can't program by hand.
 - E.g., Autonomous helicopter, handwriting recognition, most of Natural Language Processing (NLP), Computer Vision.
- Self-customizing programs
 - E.g., Amazon, Netflix product recommendations
- Understanding human learning (brain, real AI).



Even Before LLMs Like Claude, GPT, Gemini, You Were Already Interacting With ML Algorithms Every Day



Machine Learning definition

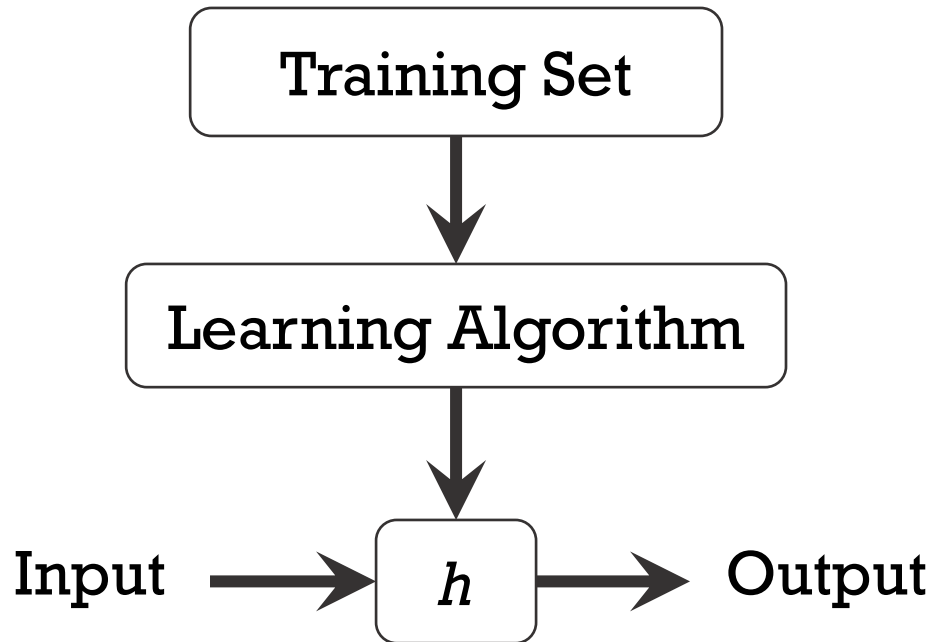
- **Arthur Samuel (1959):** Machine Learning: Field of study that gives computers the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed.

Machine Learning definition

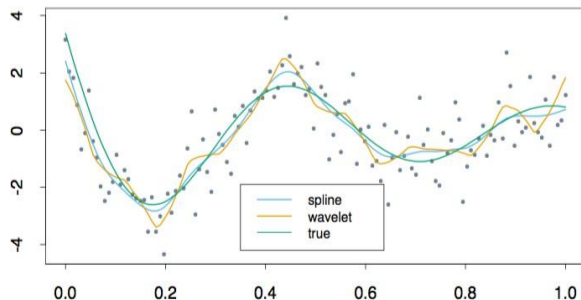
- **Arthur Samuel (1959):** Machine Learning: Field of study that gives computers the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed.
- **Tom Mitchell (1998):** Well-posed Learning Problem: A computer program is said to *learn* from experience E with respect to some task T and some performance measure P , if its performance on T , as measured by P , improves with experience E .

Machine Learning Ingredients

- **Data:** past observations
- **Hypotheses/Models:** devised to capture the patterns in data
- **Prediction:** apply model to forecast future observations

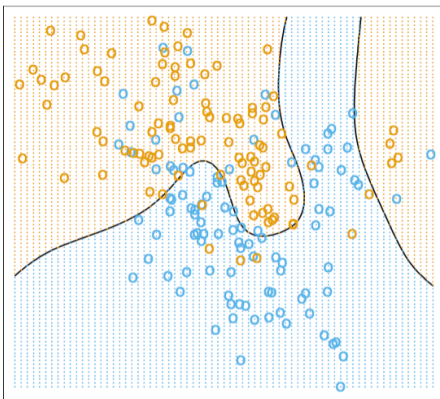


Flavors of ML



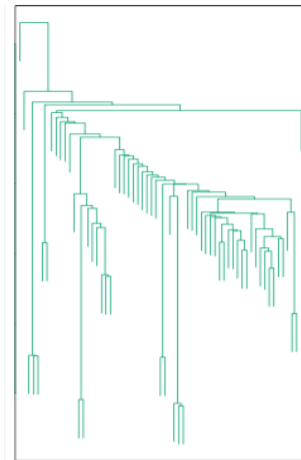
Regression

Predict continuous value:
ex: stock market, credit
score, temperature, Netflix
rating



Classification

Predict categorical value:
loan or not? spam or
not? what disease is this?

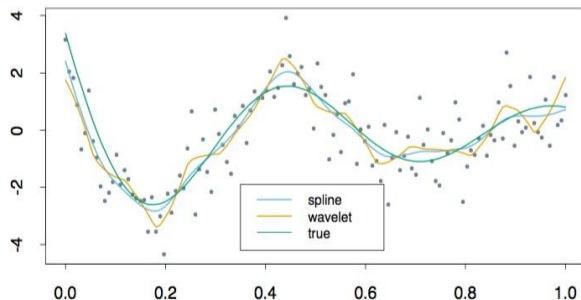


Unsupervised Learning

Predict structure:
tree of life from DNA, find similar
images, community detection

Self-supervised:
Model distribution of large-scale
data, like text or images (large
vision and language models)

Flavors of ML

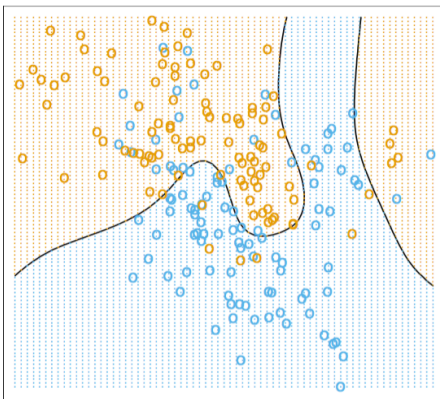


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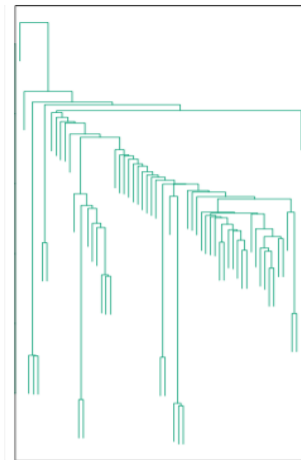
Mix of -

- statistics (conceptual) and
- algorithms (programming)



Classification

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Unsupervised Learning

Predict structure:
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What this class is:

- **Fundamentals of ML:** bias/variance tradeoff, overfitting, optimization and computational tradeoffs, supervised learning (e.g., linear, boosting, deep learning), unsupervised models (e.g. k-means, PCA)
- **Preparation for further learning:** the field is fast-moving, you will learn the foundations of ML to understand the latest results
- **ML is:**
 - Becoming ubiquitous in science, engineering and beyond
 - Transforming the world
- This class should give you a basic foundation for understanding and applying ML

Prerequisites

- Familiarity with:
 - Linear algebra
 - linear dependence, rank, linear equations
 - Multivariate calculus
 - Probability and statistics
 - Distributions, densities, marginalization, moments
 - Algorithms
 - Basic data structures, complexity

Grading

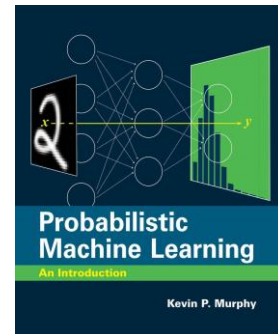
- Class Participation (5 Marks)
- Assignments (15 Marks)
- Project (15 Marks)
- Midterm Exam (25 Marks)
- Final Exam (40 Marks)

Textbooks

- Free PDF Textbook:

Probabilistic Machine Learning: An Introduction

Kevin Murphy [PDF](#), also in print



- Tom M. Mitchell, Machine Learning, 1st Edition, McGraw-Hill Education, 1997.
- Christopher M. Bishop, Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning, 1st Edition, Springer, 2006.
- Hal Daume III, A Course in Machine Learning, 2017.

Reference Books

- Trevor Hastie, Robert Tibshirani and Jerome Friedman, The Elements of Statistical Learning, 2nd Edition, Springer, 2009.
- Ethem Alpaydin, Introduction to Machine Learning, 4th Edition, MIT Press, 2020.
- Ian Goodfellow, Yoshua Bengio and Aaron Courville, Deep Learning, 1st Edition, MIT Press, 2016.

Probability Review

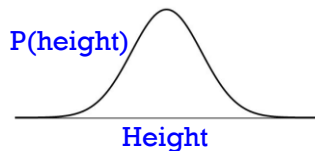
Definitions

- **Random Variable:** A variable that takes on different values determined randomly.
 - Example: The height of a person from the India

$P()$

Definitions

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- **Distribution:** The different values a random variable can take on along with the probability of that value.



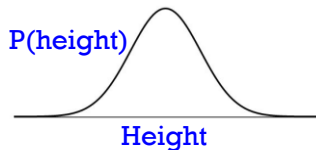
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For a
coin
toss

$$P(X=H) = 1/2$$

$$P(X=T) = 1/2$$



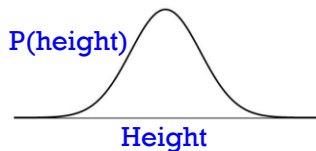
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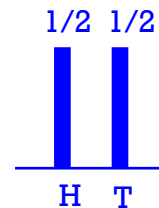
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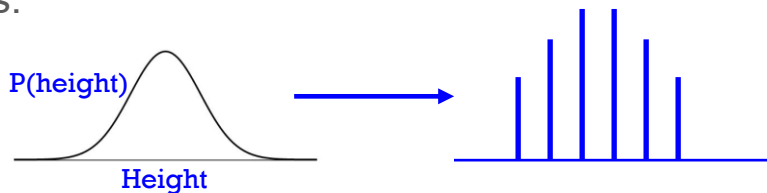
$$P(X=H) = 1/2$$

$$P(X=T) = 1/2$$



- We talk about **sampling** from a distribution:

- “Consider a sample of 100 different heights of people from the India drawn randomly from the distribution of all heights.”



Independence

Let X and Y be **random variables**

Ex. X is the outcome of the first roll of a 6-sided dice,

Y is the outcome of the second roll of the dice

(X and Y take values in $\{1,2,3,4,5,6\}$ each with equal probability)

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An **event** is statement about the world that holds or not:

Define events $A = \{X \in \{3,4\}\},$

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$$P(A) = P(X \in \{3,4\}) = 2/6 = 1/3$$

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For any events U, V we have $P(U \cup V) = P(U) + P(V) - P(U \cap V)$

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Any events U, V are **independent** if $P(U \cap V) = P(U)P(V)$

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$$P(A) = 1/3 \quad P(B) = 1/6 \quad P(A \cap B) = 0$$

No

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Any events U, V are **independent** if $P(U \cap V) = P(U)P(V)$

We define the **conditional probability** of event U given V as

$$P(U | V) = \frac{P(U \cap V)}{P(V)} \quad \text{If independent then: } = \frac{\cancel{P(U)P(V)}}{\cancel{P(V)}} = P(U)$$

Observe: if U, V are independent then $P(U | V) = P(U).$

In words: if independent, V tells you nothing about U (and vice versa)

Mean

Mean

$\mathbb{E}[X], \mu$

The expected value of X , each value is weighted by the probability of seeing it.

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_x P(X = x)x$$

Mean, Variance

Mean $\mathbb{E}[X], \mu$ The expected value of X , each value is weighted by the probability of seeing it.

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_x P(X = x)x$$

Variance $\text{Var}(X), \sigma^2$ The expected squared deviation of X from its mean.

$$\mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^2]$$

Mean, Variance, Median

Mean $\mathbb{E}[X], \mu$ The expected value of X , each value is weighted by the probability of seeing it.

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_x P(X = x)x$$

Variance $\text{Var}(X), \sigma^2$ The expected squared deviation of X from its mean.

$$\mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^2]$$

Median M The value of X that is separating the higher half of its range from the lower half.

$$P(X \leq M) = .5$$

Mean, Variance

Mean: The mean is a prediction of the value of the random variable.

Answers the question "What do I expect the height of a random person to be?"

Variance: The variance captures the spread in your data. $\mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^2]$

Also captures the error in the prediction using the mean. "How much do people's heights deviate?"

Mean, Variance

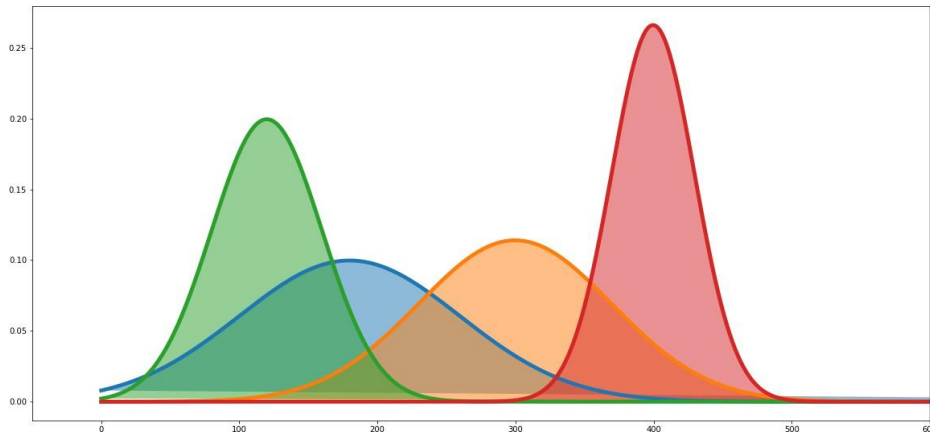
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Which distribution has a:

- *Large mean, small variance?*
- *Small mean, large variance?*

Mean, Variance

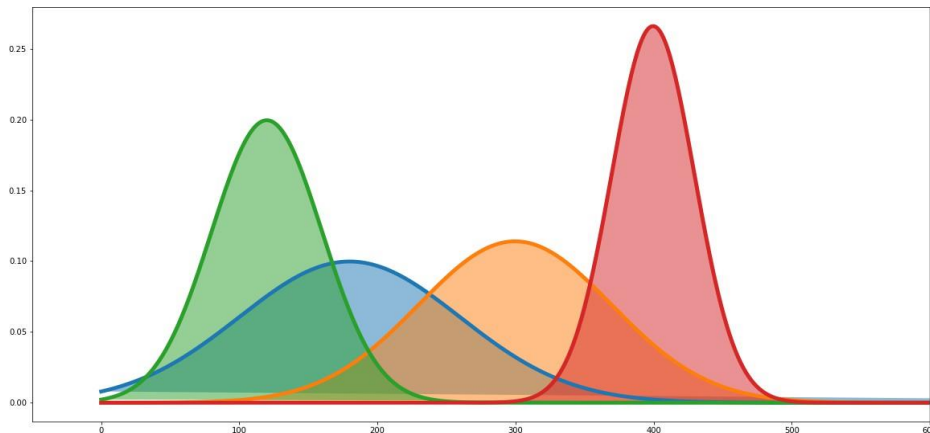
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Which distribution has a:

- *Large mean, small variance?*

Red

- *Small mean, large variance?*

Blue

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THANK YOU