
Welcome to
The Art of Machine Learning
(ECE 208/408, TEE 408)

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Machine Understanding of Sounds



MUSIC INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

- Music transcription, alignment
- Source separation
- Generation
- Interactive performance



SPEECH PROCESSING

- Separation and enhancement
- Verification and anti-spoofing
- Emotion analysis
- Diarization
- Text-to-speech
- Voice conversion



ENVIRONMENTAL SOUND UNDERSTANDING

- Sound search by vocal imitation
- Sound event detection
- Source localization
- HRTF modeling
- Smart acoustics



AUDIO-VISUAL PROCESSING

- Talking face generation
- Music performance analysis and generation
- Audio-visual source separation

What is Machine Learning?

- “... the field of study that gives computers the ability to learn **without being explicitly programmed.**”

---- Arthur Samuel, 1959

- “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 .”

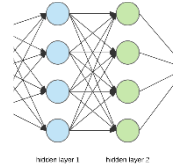
---- Tom Mitchell, 1997

Three Key Elements



Data

- “Experiences”
- Measurements
- Observations
- Annotations
- ...



Model

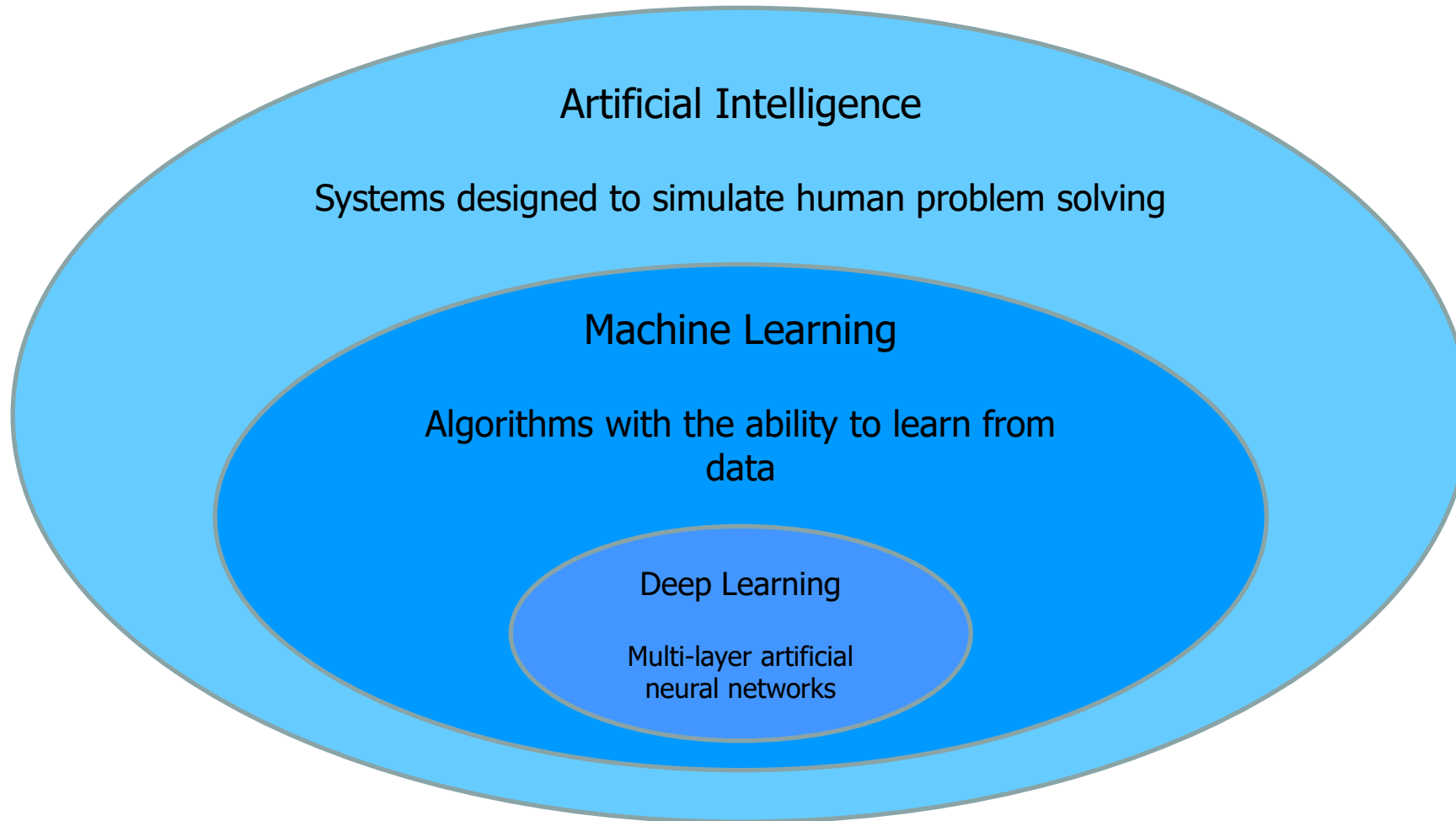
- Mathematical
- Procedural
- Architectural
- ...



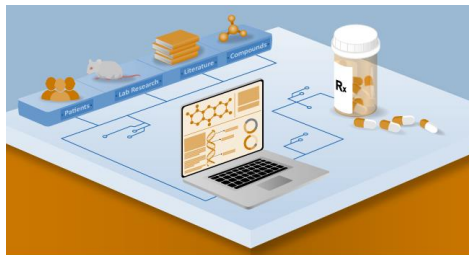
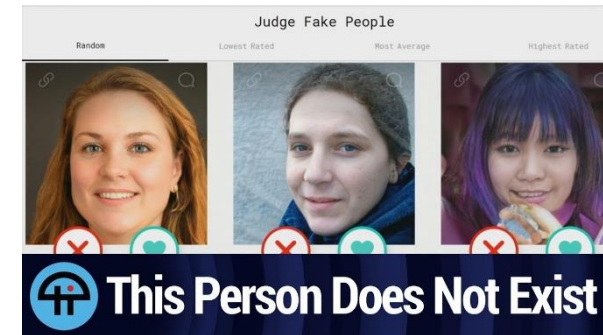
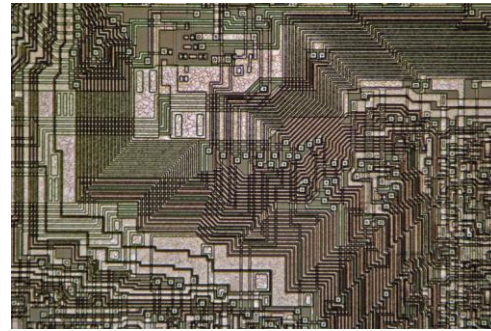
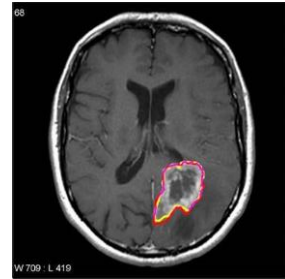
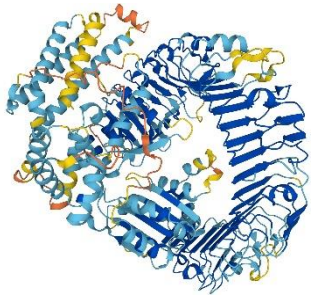
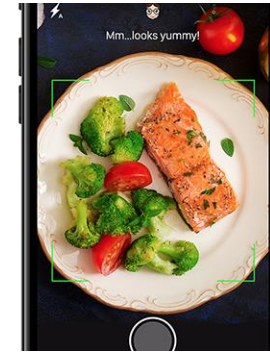
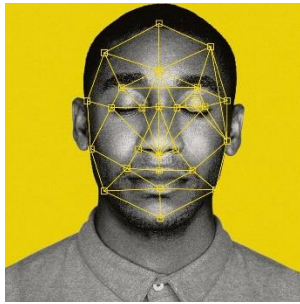
Algorithm

- Random search
- Gradient descent
- Newton’s method
- Genetic algorithm
- ...

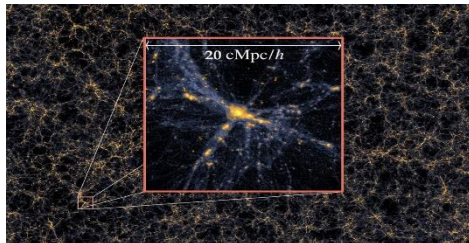
Machine Learning in Context



Many Applications



Source: GAO | GAO-20-215SP



Course Topics

- Fundamental **concepts** of machine learning
 - Training, validation, testing
 - Overfitting, underfitting, cross validation
 - Bias/variance tradeoff, regularization, generalization
 - Supervised, semi-supervised, unsupervised, reinforcement learning
- Various machine learning **models**
 - Nearest neighbors, decision trees, linear models, generalized linear models, support vector machines, multi-layer perceptron, convolutional neural networks, recurrent neural networks, K-means, principal component analysis, autoencoders, dimensionality reduction, Gaussian mixture models, Q learning, etc.
- **Applications** of machine learning in engineering problems
 - E.g., Circuit design, salary prediction, maternal health risk assessment, lung ultrasound image classification, music generation.

Course Objectives

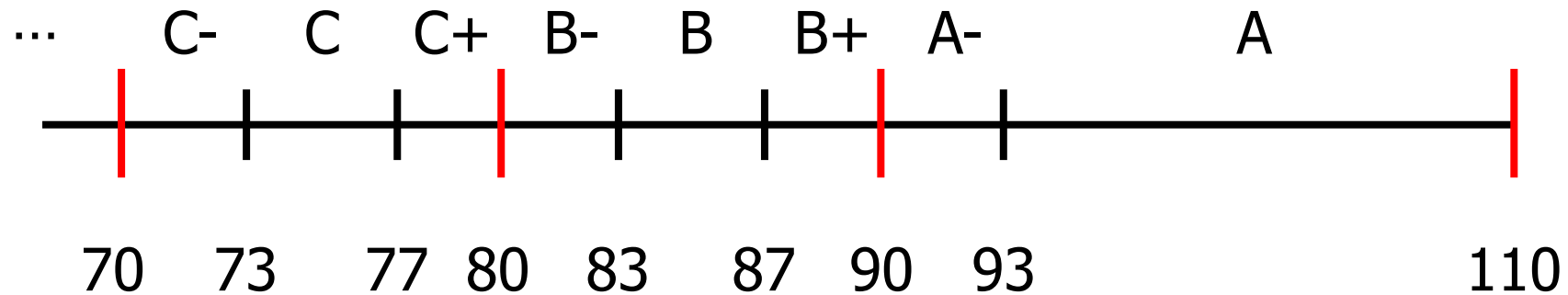
- **Good understanding** of fundamental concepts and various models and applications of machine learning
- Build intimate connections between **theory and practice**
- Gain experience in doing **small-scale research** projects
- Enhance capabilities of problem solving, team-working, presentation, etc.

Assignments

- Total (110 points)
 - Homework (80 points)
 - Programming oriented using Python
 - Final project (30 points)
 - Proposal (5 points)
 - Project update (5 points)
 - Final report (10 points)
 - Presentation/demo (10 points)

Grading

- For students enrolled in 408



- Students enrolled in 208 will get 10 points boost
- No extra credit
- No curve

Important Policies

- Late homework: 20% deduction / day
- Do your own work.
- Attendance is highly encouraged.
- Ask questions in class, office hours, Piazza!

Prerequisites

- General programming
 - E.g., ECE 114
- Linear algebra
 - E.g., MATH 165
- Preferred but not required
 - Probability and statistics, e.g., ECE 270

Textbooks

- **LWLS** - Andreas Lindholm, Niklas Wahlström, Fredrik Lindsten, Thomas B. Schön, Machine Learning: A First Course for Engineers and Scientists, Cambridge University Press, 2022. [<PDF>](#)
- **WBK** - Jeremy Watt, Reza Borhani, Aggelos K. Katsaggelos, Machine Learning Refined: Foundations, Algorithms, and Applications (2nd Edition), Cambridge University Press, 2020. [<Companion Website>](#)
- **Mitchell** - Tom M. Mitchell, Machine Learning, McGraw-Hill Education, 1997. [<PDF>](#)
- **GBC** - Ian Goodfellow, Yoshua Bengio, and Aaron Courville, Deep Learning, MIT Press. [<PDF>](#)

Tips for Studying This Course

- This is a challenging course!
- Try to come to lectures
 - Helps you grasp the main ideas quickly
- Devote enough time after class
 - Reading + implementation
 - Expect 10+ hours home study time each week
- Start doing homework early
 - Discuss with others, TAs, and me
 - Discuss on Piazza
 - Submit homework on time!

Course Information

- Course website: all materials
 - <https://hajim.rochester.edu/ece/sites/zduan/teaching/ece408/index.html>
- Piazza: Q&A + discussions
- Blackboard: announcement + assignment submission
- Instructor office hour: 3:30-4:30 PM on Wednesdays in CSB 720; additional time by appointments
- TA office hours: see course website

Ready? Let's Go!



Let's get to know each other first!

Let's design a spam filter

- Engineering approach
- Step 1: look at some normal and spam email examples
- Step 2: design **some features and rules** for detecting spam
- Step 3: Evaluate these rules on new emails



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(<https://www.securitymetrics.com/blog/7-ways-recognize-phishing-email>)

Machine Learning Approach

- Step 1: Collect normal and spam emails as training data
- Step 2: Compute features that might be useful
- Step 3: Train a classifier using the training data
- Step 4: Evaluate the classifier on unseen emails

- Hand-crafted rules are replaced by trained machine learning models
 - We need: data, model, and (training) algorithm

- In deep learning, hand-crafted features are often also replaced by automatically learned features, which is called **feature learning**.

Data Types

- Numerical data – quantitative
 - Continuous: e.g., weight, voltage
 - Discrete: e.g., guitar fret, #people in a picture
- Categorical data – qualitative
 - Nominal: e.g., speech communication channel: megaphone, land phone, cellphone, walkie talkie, satellite, and VoIP
 - Ordered: e.g., sunny, partly cloudy, cloudy, flurries, snow, blizzard
 - Categorical data is often mapped to discrete numbers, but note that distances do not make sense

Data Examples

- An object (or data sample, example) often has multiple dimensions

Weight (g)	Color	Shape	Taste (1-5)	Calories	Water (%)	Label
200	red	round	4	100	85	apple
140	orange	round	5	66	86	orange
120	yellow	long	5	105	75	banana
150	green	round	1	70	90	apple
110	green	long	2	100	73	banana
200	orange	round	3	85	90	orange

- Notation for a data example: (x, y) , where x is called the feature vector, and y is called its label
- Matrix notation for a set of samples: (X, y)

Machine Learning Paradigms

- Supervised learning
 - Given examples (X, y) , learn $f: x \mapsto y$
- Unsupervised learning
 - Given examples X , discover structures of data
- Semi-supervised learning
 - Given examples (X^l, y^l) and X^u , learn $f: x \mapsto y$
- Reinforcement learning
 - Given sequences of (state, action, immediate reward): (s, a, r)
 - Learn optimal behavior $f: s \mapsto a$ that is good in the long run

Supervised Learning

- Given examples (X, y) , learn $f: x \mapsto y$
- Classification
 - Label y is categorical or discrete
 - E.g., classifying fruits from their measurements
- Regression
 - Label y is continuous
 - E.g., predicting longevity from health status, social-economic status, etc.
- Dataset split
 - Training: used to learn the mapping f
 - Validation: used to tune hyperparameters of f
 - Test: used to evaluate performance of f on unseen data

Unsupervised Learning

- Given examples X , discover structures of data
- Density estimation: how is data distributed in the data space?
 - E.g., finding out the distribution of SAT scores in college applications
- Clustering: which data examples form a cluster?
 - E.g., sorting out types of insects
- Dimensionality reduction: find the lower dimensional subspace or manifold where the data resides
 - E.g., reducing a 4K image (8.3M pixels) to a 100-d vector for scene classification
- Data generation: sample from data distribution
 - E.g., <https://thispersondoesnotexist.com/>

Semi-Supervised Learning

- Given examples (X^l, Y^l) and X^u , learn $f: x \mapsto y$
- Same goal as supervised learning, but some training data do not have labels
 - E.g., classifying topics of text documents
 - E.g., people tagging in iPhone photos
- Why/how do the unlabeled data help?
 - Data have structures (e.g., clusters)
 - Data examples in the same cluster tend to have the same label
 - Classification boundaries tend to go through low-density regions

Reinforcement Learning

- Given sequences of (state, action, immediate reward): (s, a, r)
- Learn optimal behavior $f: s \mapsto a$ that is good in the long run
- Key property: rewards for an action are **delayed** and **ambiguous**
- E.g., chess, Atari, self-driving cars