Examples of Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Geology

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Artificial Intelligence (AI) - types

Artificial intelligence uses machines to mimic human intelligence

WHAT IS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE?

Machine Learning

Using sample data to train computer programs to recognize patterns based on algorithms.

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Neural Networks

Computer systems designed to imitate the neurons in a brain.



Natural Language Processing

The ability to understand speech, as well as understand and analyze documents.

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Robotics

Machines that can assist people without actual human involvement.



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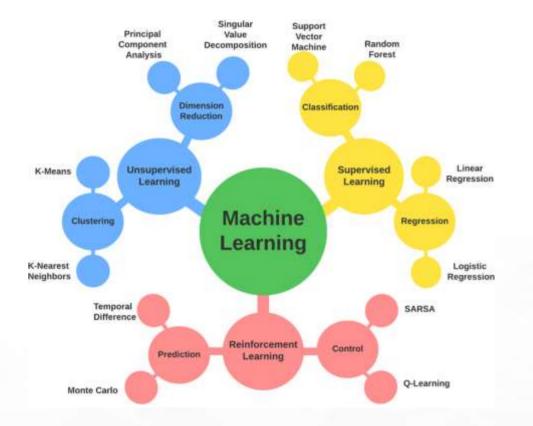
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Robotics

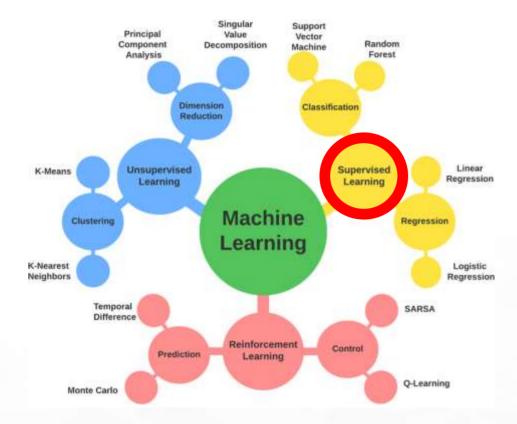
Machines that can assist people without actual human involvement.

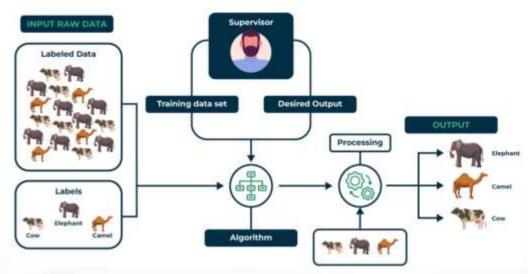


Three Machine Learning paradigms



Supervised Learning



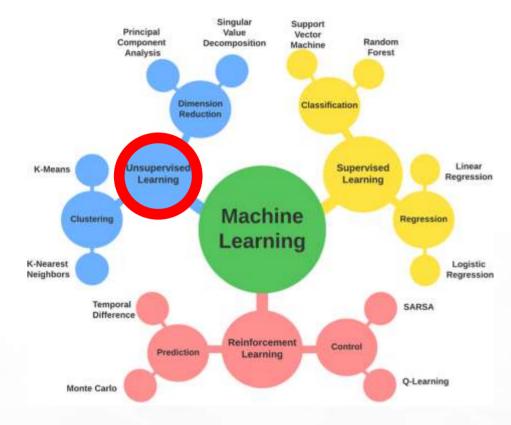


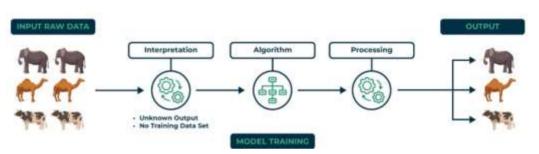
Labeled data: The algorithm is trained on a dataset where each data point has a corresponding label.

Goal: To learn a mapping function that can predict the output for new, unseen data.

https://www.analytixlabs.co.in/, https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/

Unsupervised Learning



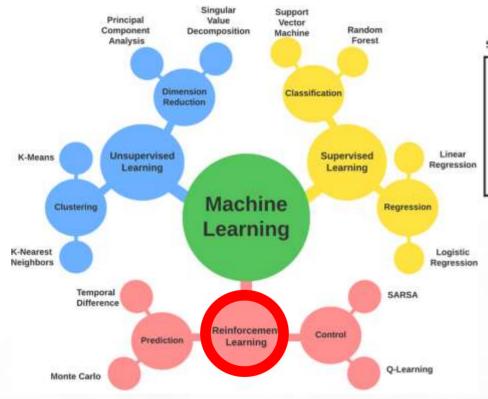


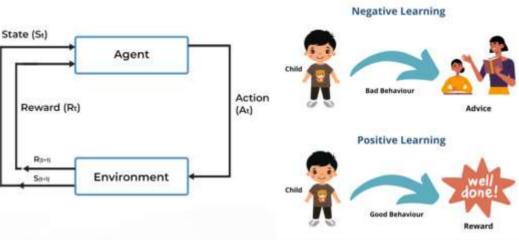
Unlabeled data: The algorithm is trained on a dataset where the data points do not have corresponding labels or output values.

Goal: To discover hidden patterns and structures within the data.

https://www.analytixlabs.co.in/, https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/

Reinforcement Learning





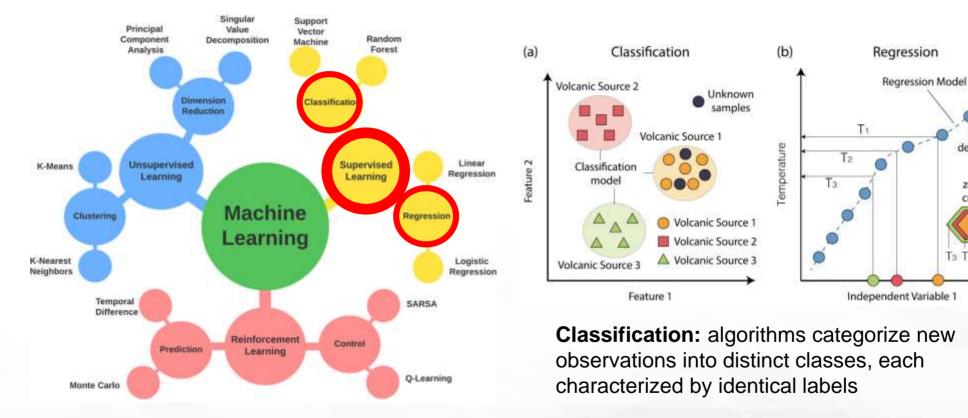
Agent-environment interaction: An agent learns to make decisions by interacting with an environment.

Reward system: The agent receives rewards or penalties based on its actions.

Goal: To maximize cumulative reward over time.

https://www.analytixlabs.co.in/, https://www.spiceworks.com/, https://copyassignment.com/

Supervised Learning - methodologies



Regression: algorithms focus on estimating the values of one or more dependent variables

Data used to

define the model

zoned crystal

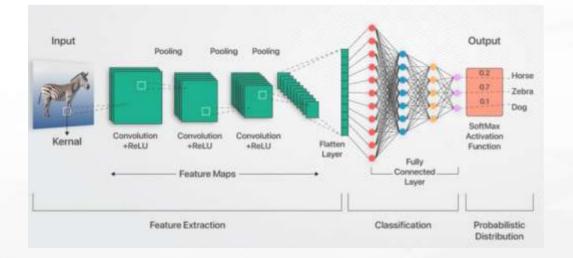
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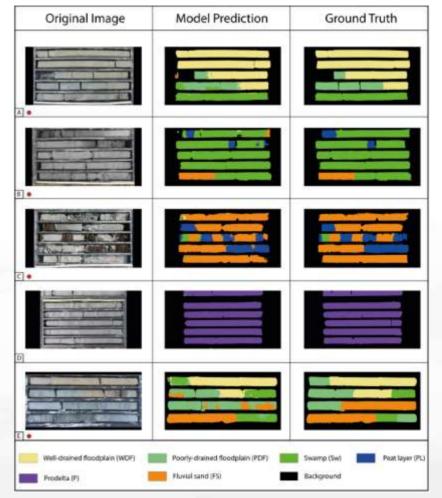
Sediment core analysis (supervised - classification)

Data: High-resolution digital images of Holocene sediment cores.

Methodology: Deep learning with Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs).

Results: Six sedimentary facies associations





https://www.analytixlabs.co.in; Di Martino et al., 2023

Thermobarometer (supervised - regression)

T (°C)

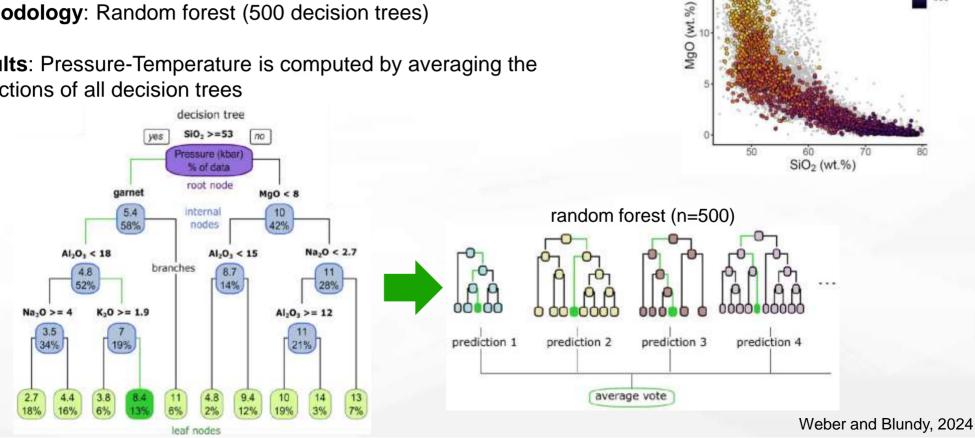
1400

1200 1000 800

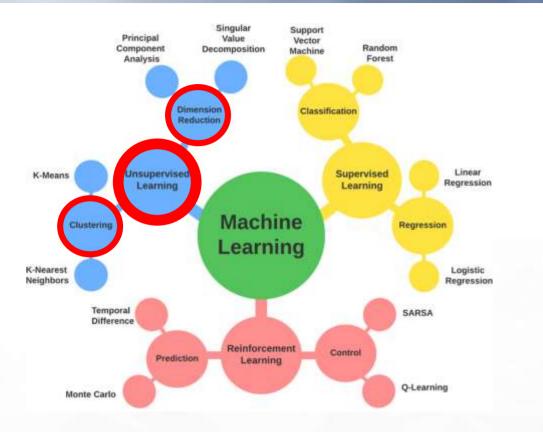
Data: Compilation of 2545 experiments from 127 published studies – Si – Al – Ti – Fe – Mg – Ca – Na – K – H₂O + minerals

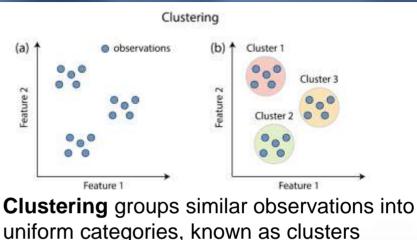
Methodology: Random forest (500 decision trees)

Results: Pressure-Temperature is computed by averaging the predictions of all decision trees



Unsupervised Learning - methodologies





(c) Dimensionality Reduction

Dimension reduction - decrease the number of variables to facilitate the visualization of complex, high-dimensional data

https://www.analytixlabs.co.in/, https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/, Petrelli et al., 2024

Seismicity of Kilauea (unsupervised - clustering)

0.6

0.2

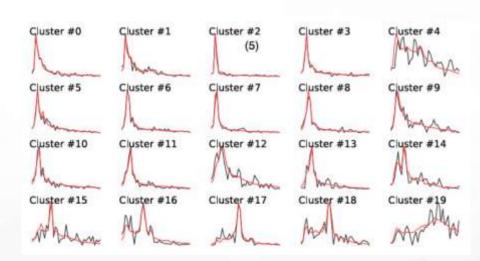
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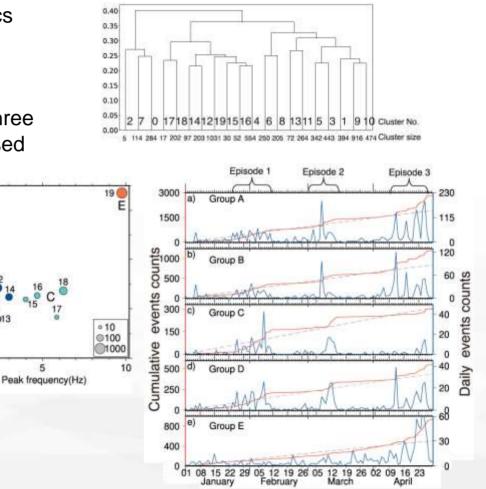
Peak

Data: Compilation of 5949 P-waves spectral characteristics

Methodology: Clustering into 20 groups

Results: Groups A-D showed episodic increases during three key intervals before the eruption. Group E steadily increased and peaked shortly before the eruption.





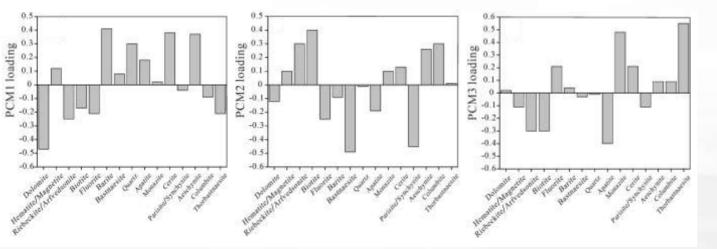
Cui et al., 2021

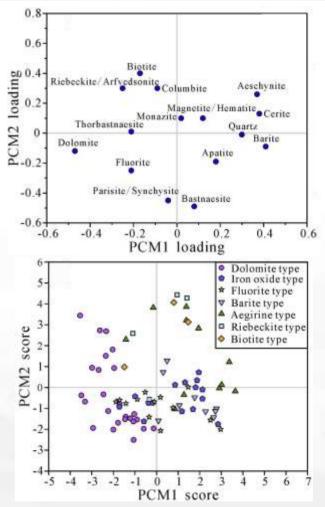
Ore mineralogy (dimensionality reduction)

Data: Content of 58 minerals and 31 elements, that were detected in 80 samples

Methodology: Principal component analysis (PCA)

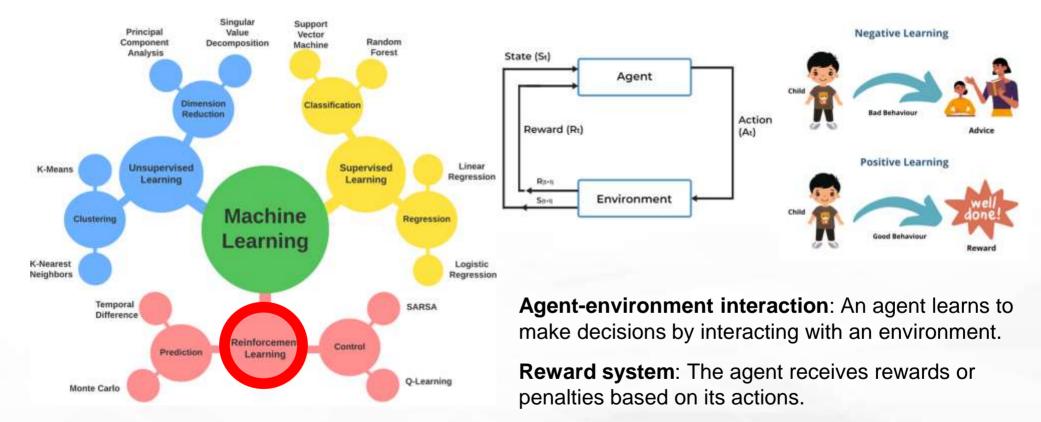
Results: Mineralization associations information and classification of ores





Zhu et al., 2024

Reinforcement Learning



Goal: To maximize cumulative reward over time.

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Mineral exploration (Reinforcement Learning)

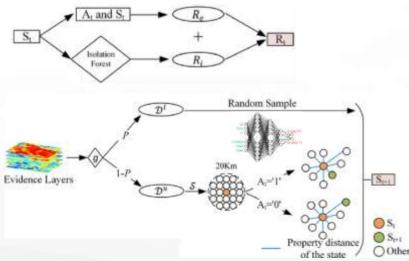
Data: Map of geological features and 39 major and trace elements.

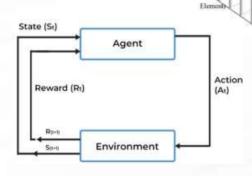
Methodology: Deep Reinforcement Learning

Results: Evaluation of mineralization potential in unlabeled areas.

Reward:

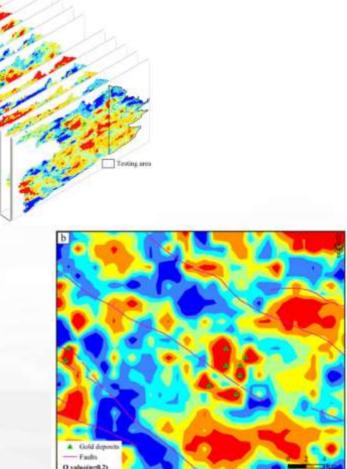
- identifying known mineralized areas.
- discovering new potential mineralized zones





Explore:

- nearby if: mineralized,
- farther if: not-mineralized.



Shi et al., 2023

Summary

Thank you



Data

Prepare input data, remove noise, missing values...

What do we want to predict or understand using AI?

Balancing accuracy, interpretability, and computational requirements.

Learning and testing



Model selection