

Top 10 - on DATA

Most important things in Applied ML

1. **Ensure LOTS OF useful quality data**, either by having it or getting it.
2. **Fast computing and access to data** for quick analysis turn-around is key.
 3. **All data is flawed**. Make sure you know how and filter it first.
 4. **Check and understand input data** and its most basic relations.
5. **Find a good loss function** to converge towards what is good in your case.
 6. **Test several methods**, as different methods apply to different cases.
 7. **Consider number of features**, and omit those which don't contribute.
8. **Do not (unknowingly) overtrain methods**. Ensure this by splitting data.
 9. **Don't expect miracles from ML**. Typical improvements are 5-20%.
10. **Make cross checks**. All data analysis results can be bugged / flawed.

Top 10 - on ALGORITHMS

Most important things in Applied ML

1. **Ensure large data samples** and understanding of it.
2. **Think carefully about the loss function**, i.e. what you want to optimise.
3. **Tree algorithms** are good for getting fast results on structured data.
4. **Neural networks** are more performant and versatile, but harder to train.
5. **Variable transformation** is typically required for Neural Networks.
6. **Image analysis** is mostly done with a Convolutional Neural Network.
7. **Dimensionality reduction** benefits high dimensional problems.
8. **Streams of data** (e.g. text) can be analysed with LSTM/RNN networks.
9. **Unsupervised learning/clustering** results can be difficult to interpret.
10. **Uncertainties in regression** can be given by ML (typically NN) algorithms.