

Principles of Knowledge Discovery in Databases

Fall 1999

Chapter 7: Data Classification

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Source:
Dr. Jiawei Han

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1

Summary of Last Chapter

- What is association rule mining?
- How do we mine single-dimensional boolean associations?
- How do we mine multilevel associations?
- How do we mine multidimensional associations?
- Can we constrain the association mining?

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Course Content

- Introduction to Data Mining
- Data warehousing and OLAP
- Data cleaning
- Data mining operations
- Data summarization
- Association analysis
- **Classification and prediction**
- Clustering
- Web Mining
- Similarity Search
- *Other topics if time permits*



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Chapter 7 Objectives

Learn basic techniques for data classification and prediction.

Realize the difference between supervised classification, prediction and unsupervised classification of data.

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Data Classification Outline



- What is classification of data and prediction?
- How do we classify data by decision tree induction?
- What are neural networks and how can they classify?
- What is Bayesian classification?
- Are there other classification techniques?
- How do we predict continuous values?

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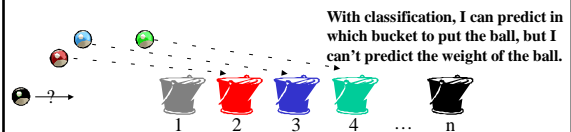
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What is Classification?

The goal of data classification is to organize and categorize data in distinct classes.

- ▶ A model is first created based on the data distribution.
- ▶ The model is then used to classify new data.
- ▶ Given the model, a class can be predicted for new data.

Classification = prediction for discrete and nominal values



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What is Prediction?

The goal of prediction is to forecast or deduce the value of an attribute based on values of other attributes.

- ▶ A model is first created based on the data distribution.
- ▶ The model is then used to predict future or unknown values.

In Data Mining

If forecasting discrete value → **Classification**

If forecasting continuous value → **Prediction**



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Supervised and Unsupervised

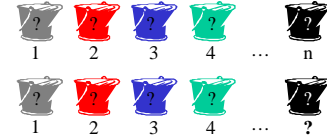
Supervised Classification = Classification

→ We know the class labels and the number of classes



Unsupervised Classification = Clustering

→ We do not know the class labels and may not know the number of classes



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Preparing Data Before Classification

Data transformation:

- Discretization of continuous data
- Normalization to [-1..1] or [0..1]

Data Cleaning:

- Smoothing to reduce noise

Relevance Analysis:

- Feature selection to eliminate irrelevant attributes



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Application

- ✦ Credit approval
- ✦ Target marketing
- ✦ Medical diagnosis
- ✦ Defective parts identification in manufacturing
- ✦ Crime zoning
- ✦ Treatment effectiveness analysis
- ✦ Etc.

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Classification is a three-step process

1. Model construction (Learning):

- Each tuple is assumed to belong to a predefined class, as determined by one of the attributes, called the **class label**.
- The set of all tuples used for construction of the model is called **training set**.
- The model is represented in the following forms:

- Classification rules, (IF-THEN statements),
- Decision tree
- Mathematical formulae

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Classification is a three-step process

2. Model Evaluation (Accuracy):

Estimate accuracy rate of the model based on a **test set**.

- The known label of test sample is compared with the classified result from the model.
- Accuracy rate is the percentage of test set samples that are correctly classified by the model.
- Test set is independent of training set otherwise over-fitting will occur.

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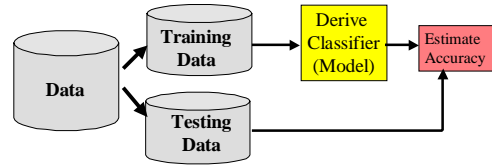
Classification is a three-step process

3. Model Use (Classification):

The model is used to classify unseen objects.

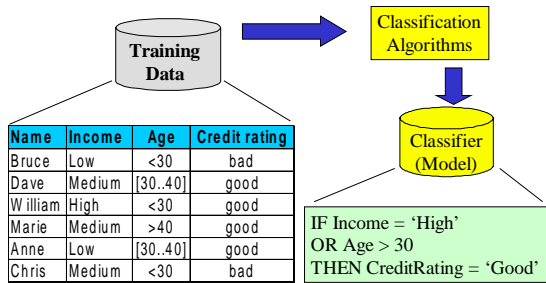
- Give a class label to a new tuple
- Predict the value of an actual attribute

Classification with Holdout

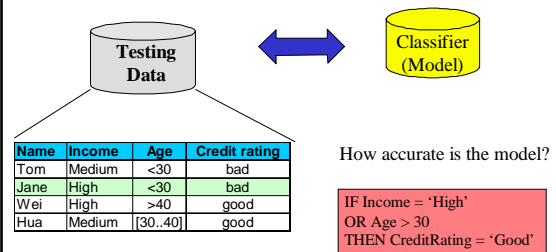


- Holdout
- Random sub-sampling
- K-fold cross validation
- Bootstrapping
- ...

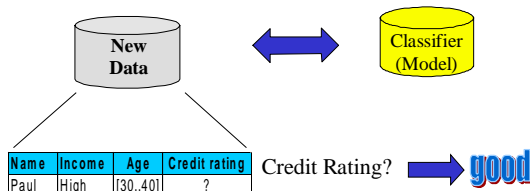
1. Classification Process (Learning)



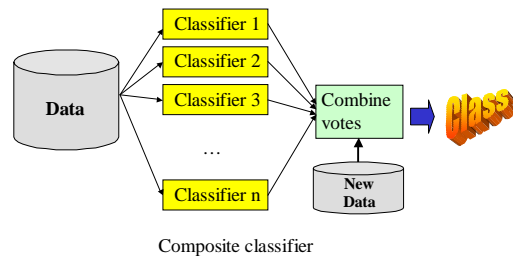
2. Classification Process (Accuracy Evaluation)



3. Classification Process (Classification)



Improving Accuracy



Classification Methods

- ❖ Decision Tree Induction
- ❖ Neural Networks
- ❖ Bayesian Classification
- ❖ Association-Based Classification
- ❖ K-Nearest Neighbour
- ❖ Case-Based Reasoning
- ❖ Genetic Algorithms
- ❖ Rough Set Theory
- ❖ Fuzzy Sets
- ❖ Etc.

Evaluating Classification Methods

- Predictive accuracy
 - Ability of the model to correctly predict the class label
- Speed and scalability
 - Time to construct the model
 - Time to use the model
- Robustness
 - Handling noise and missing values
- Scalability
 - Efficiency in large databases (not memory resident data)
- Interpretability:
 - The level of understanding and insight provided by the model
- Form of rules
 - Decision tree size
 - The compactness of classification rules

Data Classification Outline

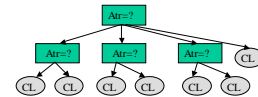


- What is classification of data and prediction?
- How do we classify data by decision tree induction?
- What are neural networks and how can they classify?
- What is Bayesian classification?
- Are there other classification techniques?
- How do we predict continuous values?

What is a Decision Tree?

A decision tree is a flow-chart-like tree structure.

- Internal node denotes a test on an attribute
- Branch represents an outcome of the test
 - All tuples in branch have the same value for the tested attribute.
- Leaf node represents class label or class label distribution.

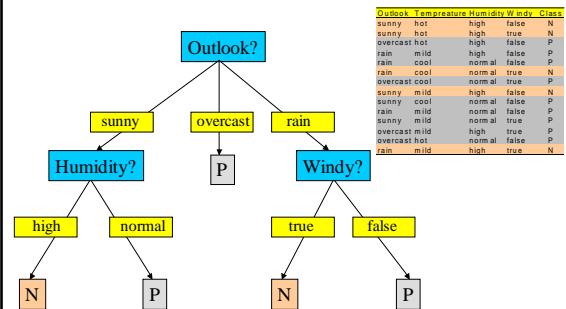


Training Dataset

- An Example from Quinlan's ID3

Outlook	Temperature	Humidity	Windy	Class
sunny	hot	high	false	N
sunny	hot	high	true	N
overcast	hot	high	false	P
rain	mild	high	false	P
rain	cool	normal	false	P
rain	cool	normal	true	N
overcast	cool	normal	true	P
sunny	mild	high	false	N
sunny	cool	normal	false	P
rain	mild	normal	false	P
sunny	mild	normal	true	P
overcast	mild	high	true	P
overcast	hot	normal	false	P
rain	mild	high	true	N

A Sample Decision Tree



Decision-Tree Classification Methods

- The basic top-down decision tree generation approach usually consists of two phases:
 - Tree construction**
 - At the start, all the training examples are at the root.
 - Partition examples are recursively based on selected attributes.
 - Tree pruning**
 - Aiming at removing tree branches that may reflect noise in the training data and lead to errors when classifying test data → improve classification accuracy.

Decision Tree Construction

Recursive process:

- Tree starts a single node representing all data.
- If sample are all same class then node becomes a leaf labeled with class label.
- Otherwise, *select attribute* that best separates sample into individual classes. **How?**
- Recursion stops when:
 - Sample in node belong to the same class (majority);
 - There are no remaining attributes on which to split;
 - There are no samples with attribute value.

Choosing the Attribute to Split Data Set

- The measure is also called *Goodness function*
- Different algorithms may use different goodness functions:
 - information gain** (ID3/C4.5)
 - assume all attributes to be categorical.
 - can be modified for continuous-valued attributes.
 - gini index**
 - assume all attributes are continuous-valued.
 - assume there exist several possible split values for each attribute.
 - may need other tools, such as clustering, to get the possible split values.
 - can be modified for categorical attributes.

Information Gain (ID3/C4.5)

- Assume that there are two classes, P and N .
 - Let the set of examples S contain x elements of class P and y elements of class N .
 - The amount of information, needed to decide if an arbitrary example in S belong to P or N is defined as:

$$I(S_P, S_N) = -\frac{x}{x+y} \log \frac{x}{x+y} - \frac{y}{x+y} \log \frac{y}{x+y} \quad \text{In general } I(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n) = -\sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log(p_i)$$

- Assume that using attribute A as the root in the tree will partition S in sets $\{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_j\}$.
 - If S_j contains x_j examples of P and y_j examples of N , the information needed to classify objects in all subtrees S_j :

$$E(A) = \sum_{j=1}^j \frac{x_j + y_j}{x + y} I(S_{P_j}, S_{N_j}) \quad \text{In general } E(A) = \sum_{j=1}^j \frac{S_{1j} + S_{2j} + \dots + S_{mj}}{S} I(S_{1j}, S_{2j}, \dots, S_{mj})$$

Information Gain -- Example

- The attribute A is selected such that the *information gain* $\text{gain}(A) = I(S_P, S_N) - E(A)$ is maximal, that is, $E(A)$ is minimal since $I(S_P, S_N)$ is the same to all attributes at a node.

- In the given sample data, attribute *outlook* is chosen to split at the root:

$$\text{gain}(\text{outlook}) = 0.246$$

$$\text{gain}(\text{temperature}) = 0.029$$

$$\text{gain}(\text{humidity}) = 0.151$$

$$\text{gain}(\text{windy}) = 0.048$$

Information gain measure tends to favor attributes with many values. Other possibilities: Gini Index, χ^2 , etc.

Gini Index

- If a data set S contains examples from n classes, gini index, $\text{gini}(S)$ is defined as

$$\text{gini}(S) = 1 - \sum_{j=1}^n p_j^2$$

where p_j is the relative frequency of class j in S .

- If a data set S is split into two subsets S_1 and S_2 with sizes N_1 and N_2 respectively, the *gini* index of the split data contains examples from n classes, the *gini* index $\text{gini}(S)$ is defined as

$$\text{gini}_{\text{split}}(S) = \frac{N_1}{N} \text{gini}(S_1) + \frac{N_2}{N} \text{gini}(S_2)$$

- The attribute that provides the smallest $\text{gini}_{\text{split}}(S)$ is chosen to split the node (*need to enumerate all possible splitting points for each attribute*).

Example for gini Index

- Suppose there two attributes: *age* and *income*, and the class label is buy and not buy.
- There are three possible split values for age: 30, 40, 50.
- There are two possible split values for income: 30K, 40K
- We need to calculate the following gini index
 - $\text{gini}_{age=30}(S)$,
 - $\text{gini}_{age=40}(S)$,
 - $\text{gini}_{age=50}(S)$,
 - $\text{gini}_{income=30k}(S)$,
 - $\text{gini}_{income=40k}(S)$
- Choose the minimal one as the split attribute

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Primary Issues in Tree Construction

- **Split criterion:**
 - Used to select the attribute to be split at a tree node during the tree generation phase.
 - Different algorithms may use different goodness functions: information gain, gini index, etc.
- **Branching scheme:**
 - Determining the tree branch to which a sample belongs.
 - binary splitting (gini index) versus many splitting (information gain).
- **Stopping decision:** When to stop the further splitting of a node, e.g. impurity measure.
- **Labeling rule:** a node is labeled as the class to which most samples at the node belong.

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How to construct a tree?

- Algorithm
 - greedy algorithm
 - make optimal choice at each step: select the best attribute for each tree node.
 - top-down recursive divide-and-conquer manner
 - from root to leaf
 - split node to several branches
 - for each branch, recursively run the algorithm

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Example for Algorithm (ID3)

- All attributes are categorical
- Create a node N;
 - if samples are all of the same class C, then return N as a leaf node labeled with C.
 - if attribute-list is empty then return N as a leaf node labeled with the most common class.
- Select split-attribute with highest information gain
 - label N with the split-attribute
 - for each value A_i of split-attribute, grow a branch from Node N
 - let S_i be the branch in which all tuples have the value A_i for split- attribute
 - if S_i is empty then attach a leaf labeled with the most common class.
 - Else recursively run the algorithm at Node S_i
- Until all branches reach leaf nodes

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How to use a tree?

- Directly
 - test the attribute value of unknown sample against the tree.
 - A path is traced from root to a leaf which holds the label.
- Indirectly
 - decision tree is converted to classification rules.
 - one rule is created for each path from the root to a leaf.
 - IF-THEN rules are easier for humans to understand.

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Avoid Over-fitting in Classification

- A tree generated may over-fit the training examples due to noise or too small a set of training data.
- Two approaches to avoid over-fitting:
 - (Stop earlier): Stop growing the tree earlier.
 - (Post-prune): Allow over-fit and then post-prune the tree.
- Approaches to determine the correct final tree size:
 - Separate training and testing sets or use cross-validation.
 - Use all the data for training, but apply a statistical test (e.g., chi-square) to estimate whether expanding or pruning a node may improve over entire distribution.
 - Use Minimum Description Length (MDL) principle: halting growth of the tree when the encoding is minimized.
- Rule post-pruning (C4.5): converting to rules before pruning.

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Continuous and Missing Values in Decision-Tree Induction

- Dynamically define new discrete-valued attributes that partition the continuous attribute value into a discrete set of intervals.

Temperature	40	48	60	72	80	90
play tennis	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

- Sort the examples according to the continuous attribute A , then identify adjacent examples that differ in their target classification, generate a set of candidate thresholds midway, and select the one with the maximum gain.
- Extensible to split continuous attributes into multiple intervals.
- Assign missing attribute values either
 - Assign the most common value of $A(x)$.
 - Assign probability to each of the possible values of A .

Alternative Measures for Selecting Attributes

- Info gain naturally favours attributes with many values.
- One alternative measure: gain ratio (Quinlan'86) which is to penalize attribute with many values.

$$\text{SplitInfo}(S, A) = -\sum \frac{|S_i|}{|S|} \log_2 \frac{|S_i|}{|S|} \quad \text{GainRatio}(S, A) = \frac{\text{Gain}(S, A)}{\text{SplitInfo}(S, A)}$$

- Problem: denominator can be 0 or close which makes GainRatio very large.
- Distance-based measure (Lopez de Mantaras'91):
 - define a distance metric between partitions of the data.
 - choose the one closest to the perfect partition.
- There are many other measures. Mingers'91 provides an experimental analysis of effectiveness of several selection measures over a variety of problems.

Tree Pruning

- A decision tree constructed using the training data may have too many branches/leaf nodes.
 - Caused by noise, over-fitting.
 - May result poor accuracy for unseen samples.
- Prune the tree: merge a subtree into a leaf node.
 - Using a set of data different from the training data.
 - At a tree node, if the accuracy without splitting is higher than the accuracy with splitting, replace the subtree with a leaf node, label it using the majority class.
- Issues:
 - Obtaining the testing data.
 - Criteria other than accuracy (e.g. minimum description length).

Pruning Criterion

- Use a separate set of examples to evaluate the utility of post-pruning nodes from the tree.
 - CART uses cost-complexity pruning.
- Apply a statistical test to estimate whether expanding (or pruning) a particular node.
 - C4.5 uses pessimistic pruning.
- Minimum Description Length (no test sample needed).
 - SLIQ and SPRINT use MDL pruning.

Pruning Criterion --- MDL

- Best binary decision tree is the one that can be encoded with the fewest number of bits
 - Selecting a scheme to encode a tree
 - Comparing various subtrees using the cost of encoding
 - The best model minimizes the cost
- Encoding schema
 - One bit to specify whether a node is a leaf (0) or an internal node (1)
 - \log_a bits to specify the splitting attribute
 - Splitting the value for the attribute:
 - categorical --- $\log(v-1)$ bits
 - numerical --- $\log 2^{v-2}$

PUBLIC: Integration of Two Phases

- Most decision tree classifiers have two phases:
 - Splitting
 - Pruning
- PUBLIC: Integration of two phases (Rastogi & Shim'98)
 - A large portions of the original tree are pruned during the pruning phase, why not use top-down methods to stop growing the tree earlier?
- Before expanding a node in building phase, a lower bound estimation on the minimum cost subtree rooted at the node is computed.
- If a node is certain to be pruned according to the estimation, return it as a leaf; otherwise, go on splitting it.

Classification and Databases

- Classification is a classical problem extensively studied by Statisticians and AI researchers, especially machine learning community.
- Database researchers re-examined the problem in the context of large databases.
 - most previous studies used small size data, and most algorithms are memory resident.
- Recent data mining research contributes to:
 - Scalability
 - Generalization-based classification
 - Parallel and distributed processing



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Classifying Large Dataset

- Decision trees seem to be a good choice
 - relatively faster learning speed than other classification methods.
 - can be converted into simple and easy to understand classification rules.
 - can be used to generate SQL queries for accessing databases
 - has comparable classification accuracy with other methods
- Classifying data-sets with millions of examples and a few hundred even thousands attributes with reasonable speed.

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Scalable Decision Tree Methods

- Most algorithms assume data can fit in memory.
- Data mining research contributes to the scalability issue, especially for decision trees.
- Successful examples
 - **SLIQ** (EDBT'96 -- Mehta et al.'96)
 - **SPRINT** (VLDB96 -- J. Shafer et al.'96)
 - **PUBLIC** (VLDB98 -- Rastogi & Shim'98)
 - **RainForest** (VLDB98 -- Gehrke, et al.'98)

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Previous Efforts on Scalability

- Incremental tree construction (Quinlan'86)
 - using partial data to build a tree.
 - testing other examples and those misclassified ones are used to rebuild the tree interactively.
- Data reduction (Cattlet'91)
 - reducing data size by sampling and discretization.
 - still a main memory algorithm.
- Data partition and merge (Chan and Stolfo'91)
 - partitioning data and building trees for each partition.
 - merging multiple trees into a combined tree.
 - experiment results indicated reduced classification accuracy.

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SLIQ -- A Scalable Classifier

- A fast scalable classifier by IBM Quest Group (Mehta et al.'96)
 - a disk-based algorithm
 - decision-tree based algorithm
- Issues in scalability
 - selecting the splitting attribute at each tree node
 - selecting splitting points for the chosen attribute
 - more serious for numeric attributes
 - fast tree pruning algorithm

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SLIQ (I)

- Pre-sorting and breadth-first tree growing to reduce the costing of evaluating goodness of splitting numeric attributes.
 - build an index (attribute list) for each attribute to eliminate resorting data at each node of attributes
 - class list keeps track the leaf nodes to which samples belong
 - class list is dynamically modified during the tree construction phase
 - only class list and the current attribute list is required to reside in memory

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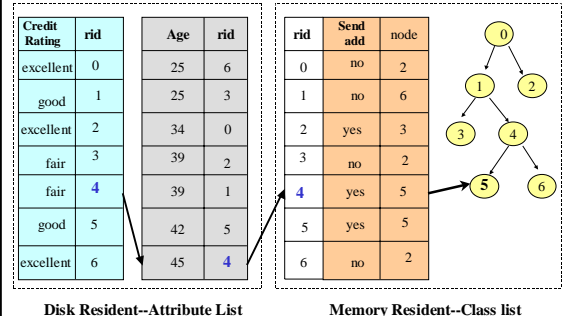
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SLIQ (II)

- Fast subsetting algorithm for determining splits for category attributes.
 - The evaluation of all the possible subsets of a categorical attribute can be prohibitively expensive, especially if the cardinality of the set is large.
 - If cardinality is small, all subsets are evaluated.
 - If cardinality exceeds a threshold, a greedy algorithm is used.
- Using inexpensive MDL-based tree pruning algorithm for tree pruning.

SLIQ (III) --- Data Structures



Disk Resident--Attribute List Memory Resident--Class list

SPRINT (I)

- Removes all memory restrictions by using attribute list data structure
- SPRINT outperforms SLIQ when the class list is too large for memory, but needs a costly hash join to connect different attribute lists
- Designed to be easily parallelized

SPRINT (II) --- Data Structure

Age	Send Add	rid
25	no	6
25	no	3
34	no	0
39	yes	2
39	no	1
42	yes	5
45	yes	4

Credit Rating	Send Add	rid
excellent	no	0
good	no	1
excellent	yes	2
fair	no	3
fair	yes	4
good	yes	5
excellent	no	6

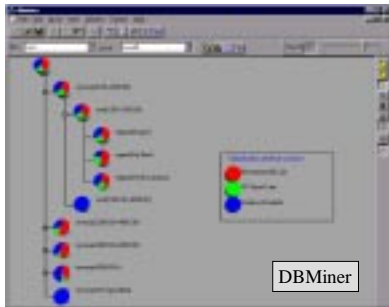
RainForest

- Gehrke, Ramakrishnan, and Ganti (VLDB'98)
- A **generic** algorithm that separates the scalability aspects from the criteria that determine the quality of the tree.
- Based on two observations:
 - Tree classifiers follow a greedy top-down induction schema.
 - When evaluating each attribute, the information about the class label distribution is enough.
 - AVC-list (attribute, value, class label) data structure.

Data Cube-Based Decision-Tree Induction

- Integration of generalization with decision-tree induction (Kamber et al'97).
- Classification at primitive concept levels
 - E.g., precise temperature, humidity, outlook, etc.
 - Low-level concepts, scattered classes, bushy classification-trees
 - Semantic interpretation problems.
- Cube-based multi-level classification
 - Relevance analysis at multi-levels.
 - Information-gain analysis with dimension + level.

Presentation of Classification Rules



Data Classification Outline

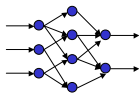


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- What are neural networks and how can they classify?
- What is Bayesian classification?
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What is a Neural Network?

A neural network is a data structure that supposedly simulates the behaviour of neurons in a biological brain.

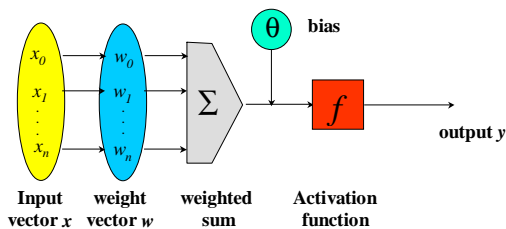
A neural network is composed of layers of units interconnected. Messages are passed along the connections from one unit to the other. Messages can change based on the *weight* of the connection and the value in the node.



Neural Networks

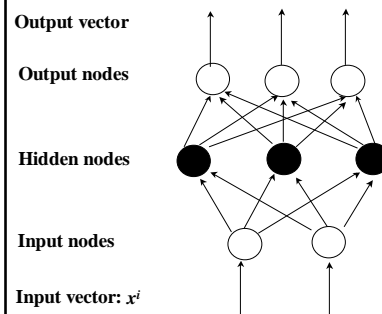
- Advantages
 - prediction accuracy is generally high.
 - robust, works when training examples contain errors.
 - output may be discrete, real-valued, or a vector of several discrete or real-valued attributes.
 - fast evaluation of the learned target function.
- Criticism
 - long training time.
 - difficult to understand the learned function (weights).
 - not easy to incorporate domain knowledge.

A Neuron

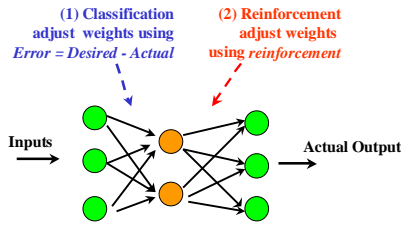


- The n -dimensional input vector x is mapped into variable y by means of the scalar product and a nonlinear function mapping.

Multi Layer Perceptron



Learning Paradigms



Learning Algorithms

- **Back propagation for classification**
- Kohonen feature maps for clustering
- Recurrent back propagation for classification
- Radial basis function for classification
- Adaptive resonance theory
- Probabilistic neural networks

Major Steps for Back Propagation Network

- Constructing a network
 - input data representation
 - selection of number of layers, number of nodes in each layer.
- Training the network using training data
- Pruning the network
- Interpret the results

Constructing the Network

- The number of input nodes: corresponds to the dimensionality of the input tuples.
 - age 20-80: 6 intervals
 - [20, 30) → 000001, [30, 40) → 000011, ..., [70, 80) → 111111
- Number of hidden nodes: adjusted during training
- Number of output nodes: number of classes

Network Training

- The ultimate objective of training
 - obtain a set of weights that makes almost all the tuples in the training data classified correctly.
- Steps:
 - Initial weights are set randomly.
 - Input tuples are fed into the network one by one.
 - Activation values for the hidden nodes are computed.
 - Output vector can be computed after the activation values of all hidden node are available.
 - Weights are adjusted using error (desired output - actual output) and propagated backwards.

Network Pruning

- Fully connected network will be hard to articulate
- n input nodes, h hidden nodes and m output nodes lead to $h(m+n)$ links (weights)
- Pruning: Remove some of the links without affecting classification accuracy of the network.

Extracting Rules from a Trained Network

- Cluster common activation values in hidden layers.
- Find relationships between activation values and the output classes.
- Find the relationship between the input and activation values.
- Combine the above two to have rules relating the output classes to the input.

Data Classification Outline



- What is classification of data and prediction?
- How do we classify data by decision tree induction?
- What are neural networks and how can they classify?
- What is Bayesian classification?
- Are there other classification techniques?
- How do we predict continuous values?

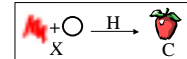
What is a Bayesian Classifier?

- It is a statistical classifier based on Bayes theorem.
- It uses probabilistic learning by calculating explicit probabilities for hypothesis.
- A naïve Bayesian classifier, that assumes total independence between attributes, is commonly used for data classification and learning problems. It performs well with large data sets and exhibits high accuracy.
- The model is incremental in the sense that each training example can incrementally increase or decrease the probability that a hypothesis is correct. Prior knowledge can be combined with observed data.

Bayes Theorem

- Given a data sample X with an unknown class label, H is the hypothesis that X belongs to a specific class C .
- The *posteriori probability* of a hypothesis H , $P(H|X)$, *probability of X conditioned on H* , follows the Bayes theorem:

$$P(H|X) = \frac{P(X|H)P(H)}{P(X)}$$



- $P(H) = P(\text{strawberry})$ $P(X) = P(\text{red flower and white circle})$ $P(X|H) = P(\text{red flower and white circle} | \text{strawberry})$
- Practical difficulty: requires initial knowledge of many probabilities, significant computational cost.

Naïve Bayes Classifier

- Suppose we have n classes C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n . Given an unknown sample X , the classifier will predict that $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ belongs to the class with the highest posteriori probability:

$$X \in C_i \text{ if } P(C_i|X) > P(C_j|X) \text{ for } 1 \leq j \leq n, j \neq i$$

Maximize $\frac{P(X|C_i)P(C_i)}{P(X)}$ \rightarrow maximize $P(X|C_i)P(C_i)$

- $P(C_i) = s_i/s$
- $P(X|C_i) = \prod_{k=1}^n P(x_k|C_i)$ where $P(x_k|C_i) = s_{ik}/s_i$
- Greatly reduces the computation cost, only count the class distribution.
- Naïve: class conditional independence

Naïve Bayesian Classifier Example

- Given a training set, we can compute the probabilities

Outlook	P	N	Humidity	P	N
sunny	2/9	3/5	high	3/9	4/5
overcast	4/9	0	normal	6/9	1/5
rain	3/9	2/5			
Temperature			Windy		
hot	2/9	2/5	true	3/9	3/5
mild	4/9	2/5	false	6/9	2/5
cool	3/9	1/5			

Belief Network

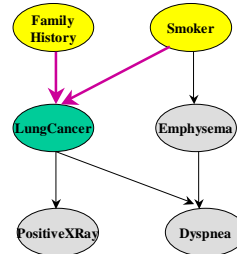
- Allows class conditional dependencies to be expressed.
- It has a directed acyclic graph (DAG) and a set of conditional probability tables (CPT).
- Nodes in the graph represent variables and arcs represent probabilistic dependencies. (child dependent on parent)
- There is one table for each variable X. The table contains the conditional distribution $P(X|Parents(X))$.

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Bayesian Belief Networks Example



	(FH, S)	(FH, -S)	(-FH, S)	(-FH, -S)
LC	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.1
-LC	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.9

The conditional probability table for the variable LungCancer

Bayesian Belief Networks

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Bayesian Belief Networks

Several cases of learning Bayesian belief networks:

- When both network structure and all the variables are given then the learning is simply computing the CPT.
- When network structure is given but some variables are not known or observable, then iterative learning is necessary (compute gradient $\ln P(S|H)$, take steps toward gradient and normalize).
- Many algorithms for learning the network structure exist.

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Other Classification Methods

- **Associative classification:** Association rule based $\text{condSet} \rightarrow \text{class}$
- **Genetic algorithm:** Initial population of encoded rules are changed by *mutation* and *cross-over* based on *survival* of accurate once (*survival*).
- **K-nearest neighbor classifier:** Learning by analogy.
- **Case-based reasoning:** Similarity with other cases.
- **Rough set theory:** Approximation to equivalence classes.
- **Fuzzy sets:** Based on fuzzy logic (truth values between 0..1).

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Prediction

Prediction of continuous values can be modeled by statistical techniques.

- Linear regression
- Multiple regression
- Polynomial regression
- Poisson regression
- Log-linear regression
- Etc.



Linear Regression

- **Linear regression:**

Approximate data distribution by a line $Y = \alpha + \beta X$

Y is the *response variable* and X the *predictor variable*.

α and β are regression coefficients specifying the intercept and the slope of the line. They are calculated by least square method:

$$\beta = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

$$\alpha = \bar{y} - \beta \bar{x}$$

Where \bar{x} and \bar{y} are respectively the average of x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n and y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n .

- **Multiple regression:** $Y = \alpha + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2$.

– Many nonlinear functions can be transformed into the above.