

Data Mining

Classification

Data Mining Concepts and Techniques by
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Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning

- Supervised learning (classification)
 - Supervision: The training data (observations, measurements, etc.) are accompanied by **labels** indicating the class of the observations
 - New data is classified based on the training set
- Unsupervised learning (clustering)
 - The class labels of training data is unknown
 - Given a set of measurements, observations, etc. with the aim of establishing the existence of classes or clusters in the data

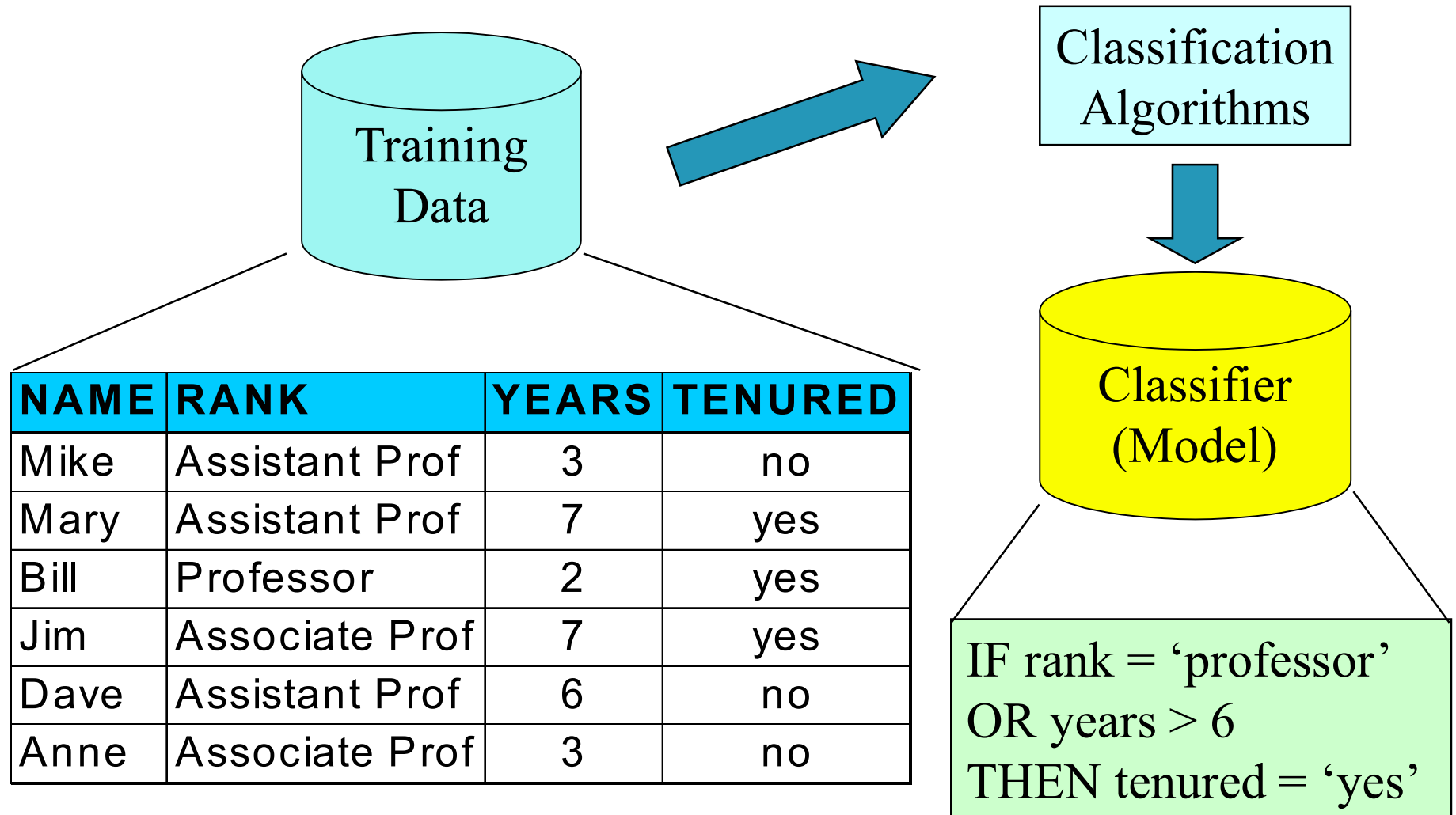
Prediction Problems: Classification vs. Numeric Prediction

- **Classification**
 - predicts categorical class labels (discrete or nominal)
 - classifies data (constructs a model) based on the training set and the values (**class labels**) in a classifying attribute and uses it in classifying new data
- **Numeric Prediction**
 - models continuous-valued functions, i.e., predicts unknown or missing values
- Typical applications
 - Credit/loan approval:
 - Medical diagnosis: if a tumor is cancerous or benign
 - Fraud detection: if a transaction is fraudulent
 - Web page categorization: which category it is

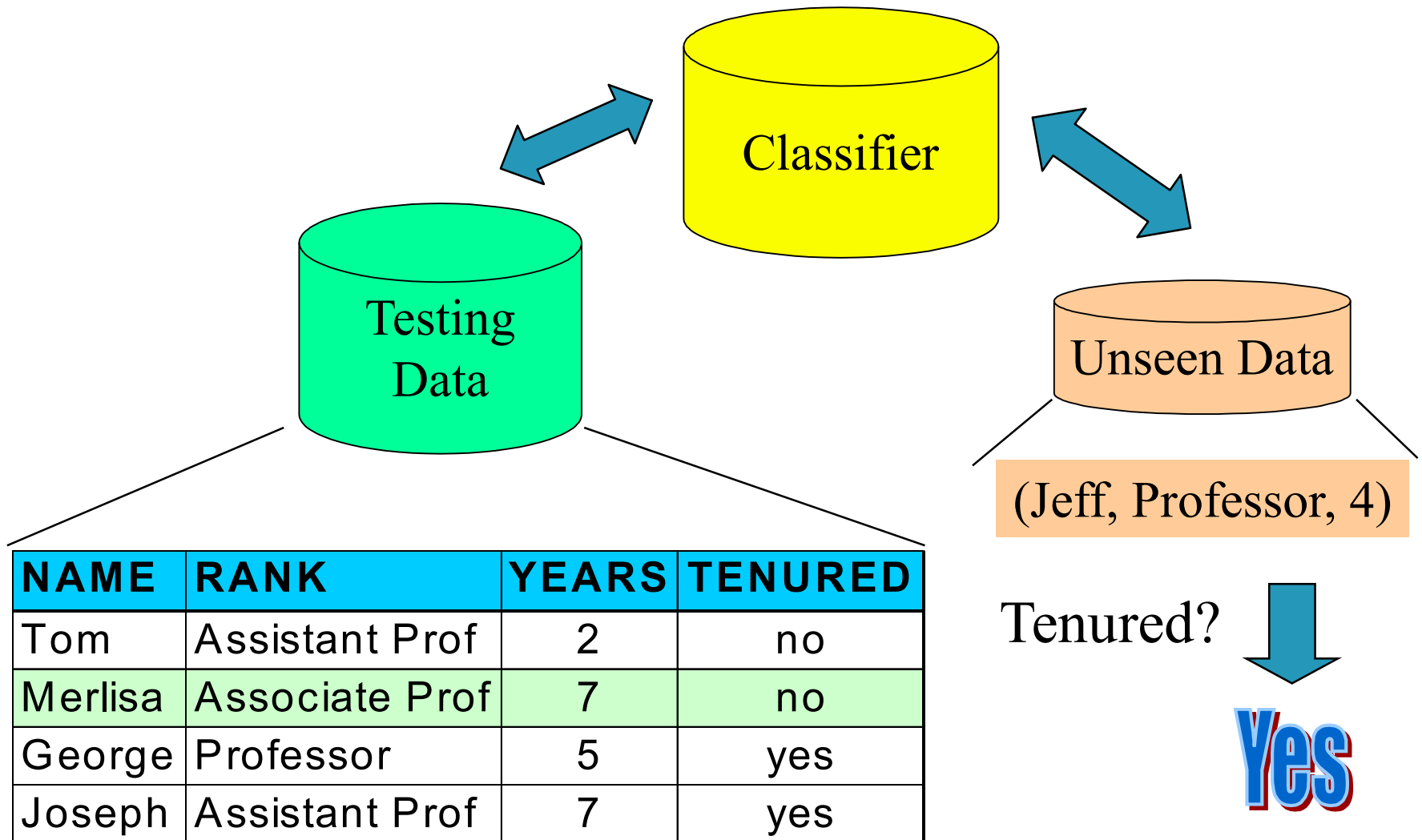
Classification—A Two-Step Process

- **Model construction**: describing a set of predetermined classes
 - Each tuple/sample is assumed to belong to a predefined class, as determined by the **class label attribute**
 - The set of tuples used for model construction is **training set**
 - The model is represented as classification rules, decision trees, or mathematical formulae
- **Model usage**: for classifying future or unknown objects
 - **Estimate accuracy** of the model
 - 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 overfitting)
 - If the accuracy is acceptable, use the model to **classify new data**
- Note: If *the test set* is used to select models, it is called **validation (test) set**

Process (1): Model Construction



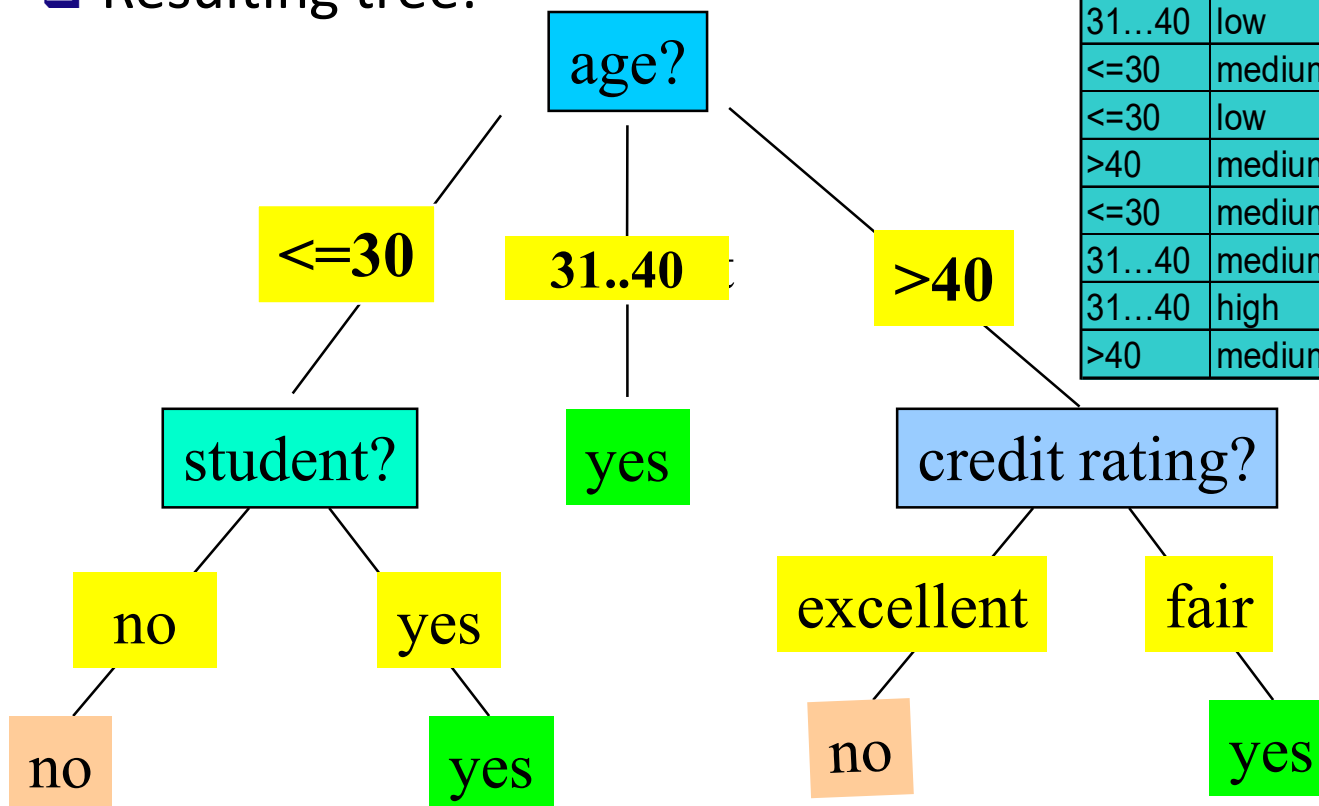
Process (2): Using the Model in Prediction



Decision Tree Induction: An Example

- ❑ Training data set: Buys_computer
- ❑ The data set follows an example of Quinlan's ID3 (Playing Tennis)
- ❑ Resulting tree:

| age | income | student | credit_rating | buys_computer |
|---------|--------|---------|---------------|---------------|
| <=30 | high | no | fair | no |
| <=30 | high | no | excellent | no |
| 31...40 | high | no | fair | yes |
| >40 | medium | no | fair | yes |
| >40 | low | yes | fair | yes |
| >40 | low | yes | excellent | no |
| 31...40 | low | yes | excellent | yes |
| <=30 | medium | no | fair | no |
| <=30 | low | yes | fair | yes |
| >40 | medium | yes | fair | yes |
| <=30 | medium | yes | excellent | yes |
| 31...40 | medium | no | excellent | yes |
| 31...40 | high | yes | fair | yes |
| >40 | medium | no | excellent | no |



Algorithm for Decision Tree Induction

- Basic algorithm (a greedy algorithm)
 - Tree is constructed in a **top-down recursive divide-and-conquer manner**
 - At start, all the training examples are at the root
 - Attributes are categorical (if continuous-valued, they are discretized in advance)
 - Examples are partitioned recursively based on selected attributes
 - Test attributes are selected on the basis of a heuristic or statistical measure (e.g., **information gain**)
- Conditions for stopping partitioning
 - All samples for a given node belong to the same class
 - There are no remaining attributes for further partitioning – **majority voting** is employed for classifying the leaf
 - There are no samples left

Brief Review of Entropy

- Entropy (Information Theory)

- A measure of uncertainty associated with a random variable

- Calculation: For a discrete random variable Y taking m distinct values $\{y_1, \dots, y_m\}$,

- $H(Y) = -\sum_{i=1}^m p_i \log(p_i)$, where $p_i = P(Y = y_i)$

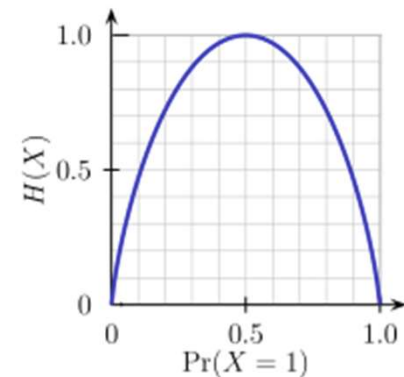
- Interpretation:

- Higher entropy => higher uncertainty

- Lower entropy => lower uncertainty

- Conditional Entropy

- $H(Y|X) = \sum_x p(x)H(Y|X = x)$



m = 2

Attribute Selection Measure: Information Gain (ID3/C4.5)

- Select the attribute with the highest information gain
- Let p_i be the probability that an arbitrary tuple in D belongs to class C_i
- **Information gained** by branching on attribute A

$$Gain(A) = Info(D) - Info_A(D)$$

- Entropy before splitting the data $Info(D) = -\sum_{i=1}^m p_i \log_2(p_i)$

- Entropy after splitting the data using attribute A

$$Info_A(D) = \sum_{j=1}^v \frac{|D_j|}{|D|} \times Info(D_j)$$

Attribute Selection: Information Gain

■ Class P: buys_computer = “yes”

■ Class N: buys_computer = “no”

$$Info(D) = I(9,5) = -\frac{9}{14} \log_2 \left(\frac{9}{14} \right) - \frac{5}{14} \log_2 \left(\frac{5}{14} \right) = 0.940$$

| age | p _i | n _i | I(p _i , n _i) |
|---------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| <=30 | 2 | 3 | 0.971 |
| 31...40 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| >40 | 3 | 2 | 0.971 |

| age | income | student | credit_rating | buys_computer |
|---------|--------|---------|---------------|---------------|
| <=30 | high | no | fair | no |
| <=30 | high | no | excellent | no |
| 31...40 | high | no | fair | yes |
| >40 | medium | no | fair | yes |
| >40 | low | yes | fair | yes |
| >40 | low | yes | excellent | no |
| 31...40 | low | yes | excellent | yes |
| <=30 | medium | no | fair | no |
| <=30 | low | yes | fair | yes |
| >40 | medium | yes | fair | yes |
| <=30 | medium | yes | excellent | yes |
| 31...40 | medium | no | excellent | yes |
| 31...40 | high | yes | fair | yes |
| >40 | medium | no | excellent | no |

$$Info_{age}(D) = \frac{5}{14} I(2,3) + \frac{4}{14} I(4,0)$$

$$+ \frac{5}{14} I(3,2) = 0.694$$

$$\frac{5}{14} \times \left(-\frac{2}{5} \log_2 \frac{2}{5} - \frac{3}{5} \log_2 \frac{3}{5} \right)$$

$\frac{5}{14} I(2,3)$ means “age <=30” has 5 out of 14 samples, with 2 yes’es and 3 no’s. Hence

$$Gain(age) = Info(D) - Info_{age}(D) = 0.246$$

Similarly,

$$Gain(income) = 0.029$$

$$Gain(student) = 0.151$$

$$Gain(credit_rating) = 0.048$$

Computing Information-Gain for Continuous-Valued Attributes

- Let attribute A be a continuous-valued attribute
- Must determine the *best split point* for A
 - Sort the values of attribute A in increasing order
 - Typically, the midpoint between each pair of adjacent values is considered as a possible *split point*
 - $(a_i + a_{i+1})/2$ is the midpoint between the values of a_i and a_{i+1}
 - The point with the lowest entropy (*minimum expected information requirement*) for A is selected as the split-point for A
- Split:
 - D1 is the set of tuples in D satisfying $A \leq \text{split-point}$, and D2 is the set of tuples in D satisfying $A > \text{split-point}$

Gain Ratio for Attribute Selection (C4.5)

- Information gain measure is biased towards attributes with a large number of values
- C4.5 (a successor of ID3) uses gain ratio to overcome the problem (normalization to information gain)

$$SplitInfo_A(D) = - \sum_{j=1}^v \frac{|D_j|}{|D|} \times \log_2 \left(\frac{|D_j|}{|D|} \right)$$

- $GainRatio(A) = Gain(A)/SplitInfo(A)$

- Ex. $SplitInfo_{income}(D) = -\frac{4}{14} \times \log_2 \left(\frac{4}{14} \right) - \frac{6}{14} \times \log_2 \left(\frac{6}{14} \right) - \frac{4}{14} \times \log_2 \left(\frac{4}{14} \right) = 1.557$

- $gain_ratio(income) = 0.029/1.557 = 0.019$

- The attribute with the maximum gain ratio is selected as the splitting attribute

Gini Index (CART, IBM IntelligentMiner)

- If a data set D contains examples from n classes, gini index, $gini(D)$ is defined as

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

where p_j is the relative frequency of class j in D

- If a data set D is split on A into two subsets D_1 and D_2 , the gini index $gini_A(D)$ is defined as

$$gini_A(D) = \frac{|D_1|}{|D|} gini(D_1) + \frac{|D_2|}{|D|} gini(D_2)$$

- Reduction in Impurity:

$$\Delta gini(A) = gini(D) - gini_A(D)$$

- The attribute provides the smallest $gini_{split}(D)$ (or the largest reduction in impurity) is chosen to split the node (*need to enumerate all the possible splitting points for each attribute*)

Computation of Gini Index

- Ex. D has 9 tuples in buys_computer = “yes” and 5 in “no”

$$gini(D) = 1 - \left(\frac{9}{14}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{5}{14}\right)^2 = 0.459$$

- Suppose the attribute income partitions D into 10 in D_1 : {low, medium} and 4 in D_2 $gini_{income \in \{low, medium\}}(D) = \left(\frac{10}{14}\right)Gini(D_1) + \left(\frac{4}{14}\right)Gini(D_2)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{10}{14} \left(1 - \left(\frac{7}{10}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{3}{10}\right)^2 \right) + \frac{4}{14} \left(1 - \left(\frac{2}{4}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{2}{4}\right)^2 \right) \\ &= 0.443 \\ &= Gini_{income \in \{high\}}(D). \end{aligned}$$

$Gini_{\{low, high\}}$ is 0.458; $Gini_{\{medium, high\}}$ is 0.450. Thus, split on the {low, medium} (and {high}) since it has the lowest Gini index

- All attributes are assumed continuous-valued
- May need other tools, e.g., clustering, to get the possible split values
- Can be modified for categorical attributes

Training Set and Its AVC Sets

Training Examples

| age | income | student | credit_rating | comp |
|---------|--------|---------|---------------|------|
| <=30 | high | no | fair | no |
| <=30 | high | no | excellent | no |
| 31...40 | high | no | fair | yes |
| >40 | medium | no | fair | yes |
| >40 | low | yes | fair | yes |
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| <=30 | medium | yes | excellent | yes |
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| >40 | medium | no | excellent | no |

AVC-set on *Age*

| Age | Buy_Computer | |
|--------|--------------|----|
| | yes | no |
| <=30 | 2 | 3 |
| 31..40 | 4 | 0 |
| >40 | 3 | 2 |

AVC-set on *income*

| income | Buy_Computer | |
|--------|--------------|----|
| | yes | no |
| high | 2 | 2 |
| medium | 4 | 2 |
| low | 3 | 1 |

AVC-set on *Student*

| student | Buy_Computer | |
|---------|--------------|----|
| | yes | no |
| yes | 6 | 1 |
| no | 3 | 4 |

AVC-set on *credit_rating*

| Credit rating | Buy_Computer | |
|---------------|--------------|----|
| | yes | no |
| fair | 6 | 2 |
| excellent | 3 | 3 |

Bayesian Classification: Why?

- A statistical classifier: performs *probabilistic prediction*, i.e., predicts class membership probabilities
- Foundation: Based on Bayes' Theorem.
- Performance: A simple Bayesian classifier, *naïve Bayesian classifier*, has comparable performance with decision tree and selected neural network classifiers

Classification Is to Derive the Maximum Posteriori

- Let D be a training set of tuples and their associated class labels, and each tuple is represented by an n -D attribute vector $\mathbf{X} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$
- Suppose there are m classes C_1, C_2, \dots, C_m .
- This can be derived from Bayes' theorem

$$P(C_i|\mathbf{X}) = \frac{P(\mathbf{X}|C_i)P(C_i)}{P(\mathbf{X})}$$

- Since $P(\mathbf{X})$ is constant for all classes, only

$$P(C_i|\mathbf{X}) = P(\mathbf{X}|C_i)P(C_i)$$

needs to be maximized

Naïve Bayes Classifier

- Assumption: attributes are conditionally independent (i.e., no dependence relation between attributes):

$$P(\mathbf{X} | C_i) = \prod_{k=1}^n P(x_k | C_i) = P(x_1 | C_i) \times P(x_2 | C_i) \times \dots \times P(x_n | C_i)$$

Naïve Bayes Classifier: Training Dataset

Class:

C1:buys_computer = 'yes'

C2:buys_computer = 'no'

New Data to be classified:

X = (age <=30,

Income = medium,

Student = yes

Credit_rating = Fair)

| age | income | student | credit_rating | comp |
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Naïve Bayes Classifier: An Example

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- $P(C_i): P(\text{buys_computer} = \text{"yes"}) = 9/14 = 0.643$

$$P(\text{buys_computer} = \text{"no"}) = 5/14 = 0.357$$

- Compute $P(X|C_i)$ for each class

$$P(\text{age} = \text{"<=30"} \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"yes"}) = 2/9 = 0.222$$

$$P(\text{age} = \text{"<= 30"} \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"no"}) = 3/5 = 0.6$$

$$P(\text{income} = \text{"medium"} \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"yes"}) = 4/9 = 0.444$$

$$P(\text{income} = \text{"medium"} \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"no"}) = 2/5 = 0.4$$

$$P(\text{student} = \text{"yes"} \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"yes"}) = 6/9 = 0.667$$

$$P(\text{student} = \text{"yes"} \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"no"}) = 1/5 = 0.2$$

$$P(\text{credit_rating} = \text{"fair"} \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"yes"}) = 6/9 = 0.667$$

$$P(\text{credit_rating} = \text{"fair"} \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"no"}) = 2/5 = 0.4$$

- **$X = (\text{age} \leq 30, \text{income} = \text{medium}, \text{student} = \text{yes}, \text{credit_rating} = \text{fair})$**

$$P(X|C_i) : P(X \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"yes"}) = 0.222 \times 0.444 \times 0.667 \times 0.667 = 0.044$$

$$P(X \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"no"}) = 0.6 \times 0.4 \times 0.2 \times 0.4 = 0.019$$

$$P(X|C_i) * P(C_i) : P(X \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"yes"}) * P(\text{buys_computer} = \text{"yes"}) = 0.028$$

$$P(X \mid \text{buys_computer} = \text{"no"}) * P(\text{buys_computer} = \text{"no"}) = 0.007$$

Therefore, X belongs to class ("buys_computer = yes")

Avoiding the Zero-Probability Problem

- Naïve Bayesian prediction requires each conditional prob. be **non-zero**. Otherwise, the predicted prob. will be zero

$$P(X | C_i) = \prod_{k=1}^n P(x_k | C_i)$$

- Ex. Suppose a dataset with 1000 tuples, income=low (0), income= medium (990), and income = high (10)
- Use **Laplacian correction** (or Laplacian estimator)
 - *Adding 1 to each case*
Prob(income = low) = 1/1003
Prob(income = medium) = 991/1003
Prob(income = high) = 11/1003
 - The “corrected” prob. estimates are close to their “uncorrected” counterparts

Naïve Bayes Classifier: Comments

- Advantages
 - Easy to implement
 - Good results obtained in most of the cases
- Disadvantages
 - Assumption: class conditional independence, therefore loss of accuracy
 - Practically, dependencies exist among variables
 - E.g., hospitals: patients: Profile: age, family history, etc.
Symptoms: fever, cough etc., Disease: lung cancer, diabetes, etc.
 - Dependencies among these cannot be modeled by Naïve Bayes Classifier
- How to deal with these dependencies? Bayesian Belief Networks

Model Evaluation and Selection

- Evaluation metrics: How can we measure accuracy? Other metrics to consider?
- Use **validation test set** of class-labeled tuples instead of training set when assessing accuracy
- Methods for estimating a classifier's accuracy:
 - Holdout method, random subsampling
 - Cross-validation
 - Bootstrap
- Comparing classifiers:
 - Confidence intervals
 - Cost-benefit analysis and ROC Curves

Classifier Evaluation Metrics: Confusion Matrix

Confusion Matrix:

| Actual class\Predicted class | C_1 | $\neg C_1$ |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| C_1 | True Positives (TP) | False Negatives (FN) |
| $\neg C_1$ | False Positives (FP) | True Negatives (TN) |

Example of Confusion Matrix:

| Actual class\Predicted class | buy_computer = yes | buy_computer = no | Total |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------|
| buy_computer = yes | 6954 | 46 | 7000 |
| buy_computer = no | 412 | 2588 | 3000 |
| Total | 7366 | 2634 | 10000 |

- Given m classes, an entry, $\mathbf{CM}_{i,j}$ in a **confusion matrix** indicates # of tuples in class i that were labeled by the classifier as class j
- May have extra rows/columns to provide totals

Classifier Evaluation Metrics: Accuracy, Error Rate, Sensitivity and Specificity

| A\P | C | ¬C | |
|-----|----|----|-----|
| C | TP | FN | P |
| ¬C | FP | TN | N |
| | P' | N' | All |

- **Classifier Accuracy**, or recognition rate: percentage of test set tuples that are correctly classified

$$\text{Accuracy} = (TP + TN) / \text{All}$$

- **Error rate**: $1 - \text{accuracy}$, or
 $\text{Error rate} = (FP + FN) / \text{All}$

- **Class Imbalance Problem:**

- One class may be *rare*, e.g. fraud, or HIV-positive
- Significant *majority of the negative class* and minority of the positive class
- **Sensitivity**: True Positive recognition rate
 - **Sensitivity** = TP / P
- **Specificity**: True Negative recognition rate
 - **Specificity** = TN / N

Classifier Evaluation Metrics:

Precision and Recall, and F-measures

- **Precision:** exactness – what % of tuples that the classifier labeled as positive are actually positive

$$\text{precision} = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

- **Recall:** completeness – what % of positive tuples did the classifier label as positive?

$$\text{recall} = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

- Perfect score is 1.0
- Inverse relationship between precision & recall
- **F measure (F_1 or F-score):** harmonic mean of precision and recall,

$$F = \frac{2 \times \text{precision} \times \text{recall}}{\text{precision} + \text{recall}}$$

- F_β : weighted measure of precision and recall
 - assigns β times as much weight to recall as to precision

$$F_\beta = \frac{(1 + \beta^2) \times \text{precision} \times \text{recall}}{\beta^2 \times \text{precision} + \text{recall}}$$

Classifier Evaluation Metrics: Example

| Actual Class\Predicted class | cancer = yes | cancer = no | Total | Recognition(%) |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------|------------------------------|
| cancer = yes | 90 | 210 | 300 | 30.00 (<i>sensitivity</i>) |
| cancer = no | 140 | 9560 | 9700 | 98.56 (<i>specificity</i>) |
| Total | 230 | 9770 | 10000 | 96.40 (<i>accuracy</i>) |

■ $Precision = 90/230 = 39.13\%$

$$Recall = 90/300 = 30.00\%$$

Evaluating Classifier Accuracy: Holdout & Cross-Validation Methods

- **Holdout method**
 - Given data is randomly partitioned into two independent sets
 - Training set (e.g., 2/3) for model construction
 - Test set (e.g., 1/3) for accuracy estimation
 - Random sampling: a variation of holdout
 - Repeat holdout k times, accuracy = avg. of the accuracies obtained
- **Cross-validation** (k -fold, where $k = 10$ is most popular)
 - Randomly partition the data into k *mutually exclusive* subsets, each approximately equal size
 - At i -th iteration, use D_i as test set and others as training set
 - Leave-one-out: k folds where $k = \#$ of tuples, for small sized data
 - *Stratified cross-validation*: folds are stratified so that class dist. in each fold is approx. the same as that in the initial data

Evaluating Classifier Accuracy: Bootstrap

- **Bootstrap**

- Works well with small data sets
- Samples the given training tuples uniformly *with replacement*
 - i.e., each time a tuple is selected, it is equally likely to be selected again and re-added to the training set

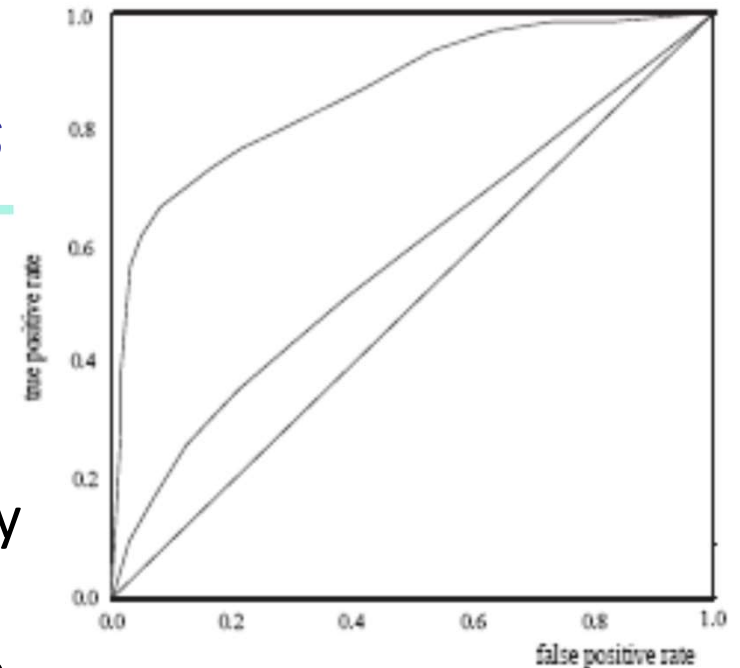
- Several bootstrap methods, and a common one is **.632 bootstrap**

- A data set with d tuples is sampled d times, with replacement, resulting in a training set of d samples. The data tuples that did not make it into the training set end up forming the test set. About 63.2% of the original data end up in the bootstrap, and the remaining 36.8% form the test set (since $(1 - 1/d)^d \approx e^{-1} = 0.368$)
- Repeat the sampling procedure k times, overall accuracy of the model:

$$Acc(M) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k (0.632 \times Acc(M_i)_{test_set} + 0.368 \times Acc(M_i)_{train_set})$$

Model Selection: ROC Curves

- **ROC** (Receiver Operating Characteristics) curves: for visual comparison of classification models
- Originated from signal detection theory
- Shows the trade-off between the true positive rate and the false positive rate
- The area under the ROC curve is a measure of the accuracy of the model
- Rank the test tuples in decreasing order: the one that is most likely to belong to the positive class appears at the top of the list
- The closer to the diagonal line (i.e., the closer the area is to 0.5), the less accurate is the model

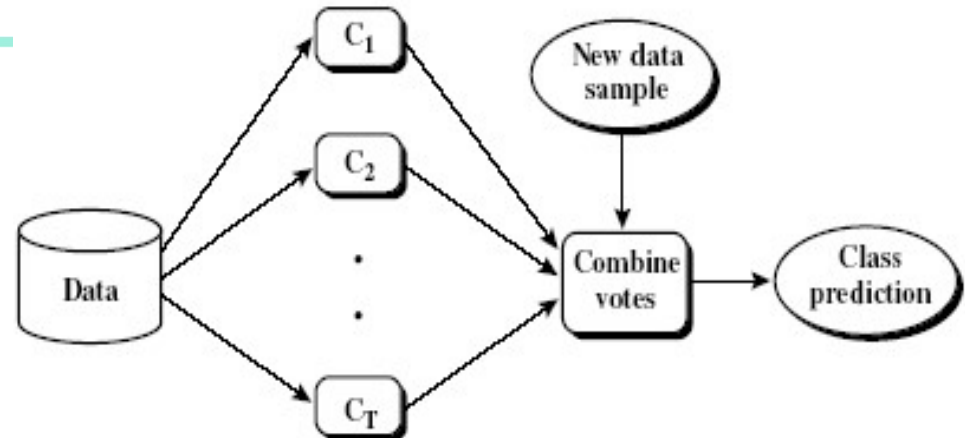


- Vertical axis represents the true positive rate
- Horizontal axis rep. the false positive rate
- The plot also shows a diagonal line
- A model with perfect accuracy will have an area of 1.0

Issues Affecting Model Selection

- **Accuracy**
 - classifier accuracy: predicting class label
- **Speed**
 - time to construct the model (training time)
 - time to use the model (classification/prediction time)
- **Robustness**: handling noise and missing values
- **Scalability**: efficiency in disk-resident databases
- **Interpretability**
 - understanding and insight provided by the model
- Other measures, e.g., goodness of rules, such as decision tree size or compactness of classification rules

Ensemble Methods: Increasing the Accuracy



- Ensemble methods
 - Use a combination of models to increase accuracy
 - Combine a series of k learned models, M_1, M_2, \dots, M_k , with the aim of creating an improved model M^*
- Popular ensemble methods
 - Bagging: averaging the prediction over a collection of classifiers
 - Boosting: weighted vote with a collection of classifiers
 - Ensemble: combining a set of heterogeneous classifiers

Bagging: Bootstrap Aggregation

- Analogy: Diagnosis based on multiple doctors' majority vote
- Training
 - Given a set D of d tuples, at each iteration i , a training set D_i of d tuples is sampled with replacement from D (i.e., bootstrap)
 - A classifier model M_i is learned for each training set D_i
- Classification: classify an unknown sample X
 - Each classifier M_i returns its class prediction
 - The bagged classifier M^* counts the votes and assigns the class with the most votes to X
- Prediction: can be applied to the prediction of continuous values by taking the average value of each prediction for a given test tuple
- Accuracy
 - Often significantly better than a single classifier derived from D
 - For noise data: not considerably worse, more robust
 - Proved improved accuracy in prediction

Boosting

- Analogy: Consult several doctors, based on a combination of weighted diagnoses—weight assigned based on the previous diagnosis accuracy
- How boosting works?
 - **Weights** are assigned to each training tuple
 - A series of k classifiers is iteratively learned
 - After a classifier M_i is learned, the weights are updated to allow the subsequent classifier, M_{i+1} , to **pay more attention to the training tuples that were misclassified** by M_i
 - The final **M^* combines the votes** of each individual classifier, where the weight of each classifier's vote is a function of its accuracy
- Boosting algorithm can be extended for numeric prediction
- Comparing with bagging: Boosting tends to have greater accuracy, but it also risks overfitting the model to misclassified data

Adaboost (Freund and Schapire, 1997)

- Given a set of d class-labeled tuples, $(\mathbf{X}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{X}_d, y_d)$
- Initially, all the weights of tuples are set the same ($1/d$)
- Generate k classifiers in k rounds. At round i ,
 - Tuples from D are sampled (with replacement) to form a training set D_i of the same size
 - Each tuple's chance of being selected is based on its weight
 - A classification model M_i is derived from D_i
 - Its error rate is calculated using D_i as a test set
 - If a tuple is misclassified, its weight is increased, o.w. it is decreased
- Error rate: $\text{err}(\mathbf{X}_j)$ is the misclassification error of tuple \mathbf{X}_j . Classifier M_i error rate is the sum of the weights of the misclassified tuples:

$$\text{error}(M_i) = \sum_j^d w_j \times \text{err}(\mathbf{X}_j)$$

- The weight of classifier M_i 's vote is $\log \frac{1 - \text{error}(M_i)}{\text{error}(M_i)}$

Random Forest (Breiman 2001)

- Random Forest:
 - Each classifier in the ensemble is a *decision tree* classifier and is generated using a random selection of attributes at each node to determine the split
 - During classification, each tree votes and the most popular class is returned
- Two Methods to construct Random Forest:
 - Forest-RI (*random input selection*): Randomly select, at each node, F attributes as candidates for the split at the node. The CART methodology is used to grow the trees to maximum size
 - Forest-RC (*random linear combinations*): Creates new attributes (or features) that are a linear combination of the existing attributes (reduces the correlation between individual classifiers)
- Comparable in accuracy to Adaboost, but more robust to errors and outliers
- Insensitive to the number of attributes selected for consideration at each split, and faster than bagging or boosting

Classification of Class-Imbalanced Data Sets

- Class-imbalance problem: Rare positive example but numerous negative ones, e.g., medical diagnosis, fraud, oil-spill, fault, etc.
- Traditional methods assume a balanced distribution of classes and equal error costs: not suitable for class-imbalanced data
- Typical methods for imbalance data in 2-class classification:
 - **Oversampling**: re-sampling of data from positive class
 - **Under-sampling**: randomly eliminate tuples from negative class
 - **Threshold-moving**: moves the decision threshold, t , so that the rare class tuples are easier to classify, and hence, less chance of costly false negative errors
 - Ensemble techniques: Ensemble multiple classifiers introduced above
- Still difficult for class imbalance problem on multiclass tasks