

eXplainable Artificial Intelligence  
Cours 12 : Fairness

presented by Jean-Noël Vittaut

This lecture is a presentation of some of V. Grari's work :

*Adversarial mitigation to reduce unwanted biases in machine learning*, PhD thesis, Sorbonne Université, 2022.

- GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation)
- Strictly regulates the collection and use of sensitive personal data. With the aim of obtaining non-discriminatory algorithms
- Article 9(1) : "Processing of personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership, and the processing of genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation shall be prohibited."

### 1 Group fairness

- Overview
- Problem statement
- Measuring fairness
- Ensuring group fairness

### 2 Individual fairness

- Overview
- Problem statement
- Measuring fairness

### 3 Conclusion

### 4 TME

### 1 Group fairness

- Overview
- Problem statement
- Measuring fairness
- Ensuring group fairness

### 2 Individual fairness

- Overview
- Problem statement
- Measuring fairness

### 3 Conclusion

### 4 TME

## Groups can be subject to unfair decisions

- men vs. women ; Caucasian vs. non-Caucasians ; ...

## Measures

- statistical independence : *Demographic parity*
- statistical separation criterion : *Equalized odds*; *Residuals parity*

## Mitigation algorithms

- pre-processing : suppressing sensitive attributes ; changing class labels ; resampling
- post-processing : modifying the output of the classifier
- in-processing : penalty in the cost function ; adversarial methods

## Mitigation algorithms

- Prediction retreatment
- Fair representation

## Classification or regression problem

- predict  $Y$  from  $X \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- $S$  : sensitive attributes

## Demographic parity (Dwork et al., 2012)

- Output prediction  $\hat{Y}$  from features  $X$  is independent of the sensitive attribute  $S$
- $\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}|S\} = \mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}\}$

### Example : patient tumors and gender

- Classification model (0 = no tumor, 1 = tumor)
- Sensitive feature : gender
- Model predicts more tumors on male than female

**the positive rate would be equal for males and females**

→ increase the predictive error by detecting fewer tumors for males and more for females



## Equalized odds (Hardt et al., 2016)

- output prediction  $\hat{Y}$  from features  $X$  is independent of the sensitive attribute  $S$  given the outcome true value  $Y$
- $\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}|S, Y\} = \mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}|Y\}$
- $\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}|S, Y = 1\} = \mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}|Y = 1\}$  : *equalized opportunity*

### Example : patient tumors and gender

- Classification model (0 = no tumor, 1 = tumor)
- Sensitive feature : gender
- Model predicts more tumors on male than female

**false-positive and false-negative rates will be the same for males and females**

→ more appropriate for this medical application

## Equalized residuals (Grari et al., 2020)

- Residuals  $\hat{Y} - Y$  from features  $X$  is independent of the sensitive attribute  $S$
- $\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y} - Y|S\} = \mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y} - Y\}$

### Example : car insurance pricing and age

- Regression model (real cost)
- Sensitive feature : age (younger vs older)

**Demographic parity : older people pay more than their real cost**

**Equalized residuals : residuals between the predictions and the real claim cost are preserved, independently from the sensitive variable age**

→ What is more appropriate ?

How to mathematically quantify the previous fairness objectives ?

## Binary setting

- predict  $Y \in \{0, 1\}$
- $S \in \{0, 1\}$  : sensitive attribute

## Demographic Parity

- Each demographic group has the same chance for a positive outcome
- A classifier is considered fair according to the demographic parity principle if  $\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y} = 1|S = 0\} = \mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y} = 1|S = 1\}$

## $p$ -rule

- $\min \left\{ \frac{\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}=1|S=1\}}{\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}=1|S=0\}}, \frac{\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}=1|S=0\}}{\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}=1|S=1\}} \right\}$
- 100% rule : totally fair
- 0% rule : totally unfair

## Disparate Impact (DI) assessment (Feldman et al., 2015)

- Absolute difference of outcome distributions for subpopulations with different sensitive attribute values
- $|\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y} = 1|S = 1\} - \mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y} = 1|S = 0\}|$
- The smaller the difference, the fairer the model

## Equalized Odds

- $\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}|S, Y\} = \mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}|Y\}$

## Disparate Mistreatment (DM) (Zafar et al., 2017)

- Absolute difference between the false positive rate (FPR) and the false-negative rate (FNR) for both demographics
- $D_{FPR} = |\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y} = 1|Y = 0, S = 1\} - \mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y} = 1|Y = 0, S = 0\}|$
- $D_{FNR} = |\mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y} = 0|Y = 1, S = 1\} - \mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y} = 0|Y = 1, S = 0\}|$
- chances of being correctly (or incorrectly) classified as positive should be the same across groups.
- The closer the values of  $D_{FPR}$  and  $D_{FNR}$  to 0, the lower the degree of disparate mistreatment of the classifier

## Continuous setting

- predict  $Y \in \mathbb{R}$
- $S \in \mathbb{R}$  : sensitive attribute

## Measuring dependence

- assessing fairness  $\rightarrow$  measuring statistical dependence
- Pearson's correlation
- Kendall's tau
- Spearman's rank correlation
- ...
- $\rightarrow$  only capture a limited class of association patterns.

## Dependence via Information Theory

### Mutual Information

- $I(U, V) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} P_{UV}(u, v) * \log(Q(u, v)) du dv$
- with  $Q(u, v) = \frac{P_{UV}(u, v)}{\sqrt{P_U(u)}\sqrt{P_V(v)}}$

### $\chi^2$ divergence

- $\chi^2(P_{UV}, P_U.P_V) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} Q(u, v) du dv - 1$

### Drawbacks

- difficult to measure, interpret, compute
- usual method : estimate the density function via KDE (Kernel Density Estimation)



## Dual representation (Broniatowski and Leorato, 2006)

- The  $\chi^2$  divergence admits the following representation :  
$$\chi^2(P, Q) = \sup_f \mathbb{E}(f(P)) - \mathbb{E}(f(Q) + \frac{1}{4}f^2(Q))$$

---

### Algorithm 1 $\chi^2$ Neural Estimation

---

**Input:** Distributions  $P_{U,V}$  and  $P_V$ , Neural Network  $f_\theta$ , Batchsize  $b$ , Learning rate  $\alpha$

**repeat**

Draw  $b$  samples from the joint distribution:

$(u_1, v_1), \dots, (u_b, v_b) \sim P_{UV}$

Draw  $b$  samples from the  $V$  marginal distribution:

$\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_b \sim P_V$

Evaluate the lower bound:

$J(\theta) \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b f_\theta(u_i, v_i) - \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b (f_\theta(u_i, \bar{v}_i) + \frac{1}{4}f_\theta(u_i, \bar{v}_i)^2)$

Update the network parameters by gradient ascent:

$\theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha \nabla J(\theta)$

**until** convergence

---

**Measure of concordance** (Hirschfeld, 1935) and (Gebelein, 1941)

- $HGR(U, V) = \max_{f,g} \{r(f(U), g(V))\}$   
where  $r$  is Pearson's correlation

**Alternative expression**

- $HGR(U, V) = \max_{f \in \mathcal{S}(U), g \in \mathcal{S}(V)} \{\mathbb{E}(f(U)g(V))\}$   
where  $\mathcal{S}(X) = \{f : \mathbb{E}(f(X)) = 0 \text{ and } \mathbb{E}(f^2(X)) = 1\}$  (standardized transformations)

HGR coefficient is equal to 0 if, and only if, the two random variables are independent.

---

**Algorithm 2** HGR Estimation by Neural Network
 

---

**Input:** Distributions  $P_{U,V}$ , Neural Networks  $f_{\omega_f}$  and  $g_{\omega_g}$ ,  
Batchsize  $b$ , Learning rates  $\alpha_f, \alpha_g$

**repeat**

Draw  $b$  samples from the joint distribution:

$$(u_1, v_1), \dots, (u_b, v_b) \sim P_{UV}$$

Calculate the average and variance of the transformation predictions:

$$m_f \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b f_{\omega_f}(u_i) ; \sigma_f^2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b (f_{\omega_f}(u_i) - m_f)^2$$

$$m_g \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b g_{\omega_g}(v_i) ; \sigma_g^2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b (g_{\omega_g}(v_i) - m_g)^2$$

Standardize w.r.t. the minibatch:

$$\forall i : \hat{f}_{\omega_f}(u_i) \leftarrow \frac{f_{\omega_f}(u_i) - m_f}{\sqrt{\sigma_f^2 + \epsilon}} ; \hat{g}_{\omega_g}(v_i) \leftarrow \frac{g_{\omega_g}(v_i) - m_g}{\sqrt{\sigma_g^2 + \epsilon}}$$

Maximize the following objective function  $J$  by gradient ascent:

$$J(\omega_f, \omega_g) = \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b \hat{f}_{\omega_f}(u_i) * \hat{g}_{\omega_g}(v_i)$$

$$\omega_f \leftarrow \omega_f + \alpha_f \frac{\partial J(\omega_f, \omega_g)}{\partial \omega_f} ; \omega_g \leftarrow \omega_g + \alpha_g \frac{\partial J(\omega_f, \omega_g)}{\partial \omega_g}$$

**until** convergence

---

## Demographic parity

- A machine learning algorithm achieves Demographic Parity if the associated prediction  $\hat{Y}$  and the sensitive attribute  $S$  satisfies :  $HGR(\hat{Y}, S) = 0$

## FairQuant metric (Grari et al., 2020)

- Metric based on discretization of the sensitive attribute
- Splits the set samples  $X$  in  $K$  quantiles with regards to the sensitive attribute
- We define  $K$  as the number of quantiles,  $m_k$  as the mean of the predictions  $h(X_k)$  in the  $k$ -th quantile set  $X_k$ , and  $m$  its mean on the full sample  $X$
- $FairQuant = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K |m_k - m|$

## Equalized residuals

- A machine learning algorithm achieves equalized residuals if the associated residuals  $\hat{Y} - Y$  and the sensitive attribute  $S$  satisfies :  $HGR(\hat{Y} - Y, S) = 0$

## FairQuant metric (Grari et al., 2020)

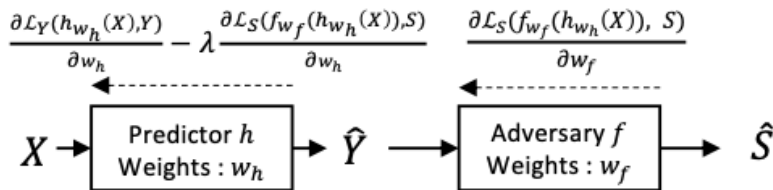
- FairQuant on the mean of the residuals

## Achieving the demographic parity

- $\arg \min_h \{ \mathcal{L}(h(X), Y) + \lambda p(h(X), S) \}$
- $p$  : penalization term which evaluates the correlation loss between two variables

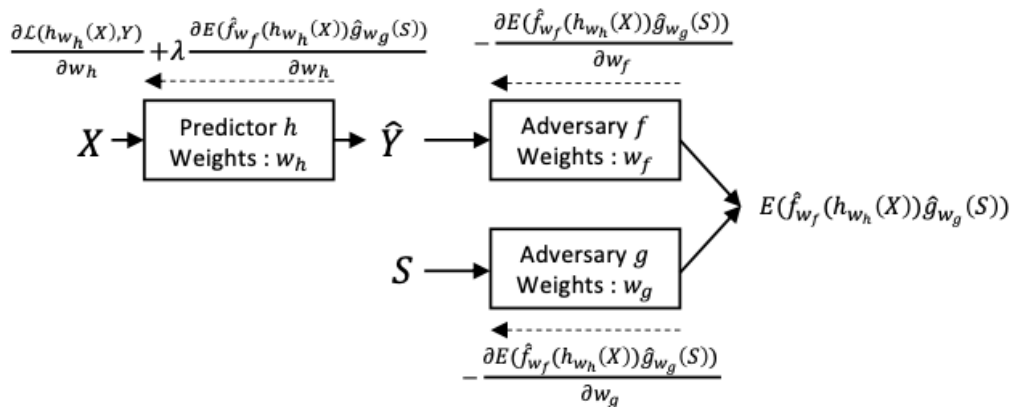
## Adversarial simple architecture

$$\blacksquare \arg \min_h \left\{ \max_f \left\{ \mathcal{L}_{pred}(h(X), Y) + \lambda \mathcal{L}_{adv}(f(h(X)), S) \right\} \right\}$$



## Adversarial HGR architecture (Grari et al., 2020)

$$\arg \min_h \left\{ \max_{f,g} \left\{ \mathcal{L}_{pred}(h(X), Y) + \lambda \mathbb{E}_{XS}(\hat{f}(h(X))\hat{g}(S)) \right\} \right\}$$





---

## Algorithm 3 Fair Rényi Algorithm for Demographic Parity

---

**Input:** Training set  $\mathcal{T}$ , Loss function  $\mathcal{L}$ , Batchsize  $b$ ,  
 Neural Networks  $h_{\omega_h}$ ,  $f_{\omega_f}$  and  $g_{\omega_g}$ ,  
 Learning rates  $\alpha_f$ ,  $\alpha_g$  and  $\alpha_h$ , Fairness control  $\lambda$

**Repeat**

Draw  $b$  samples  $(x_1, s_1, y_1), \dots, (x_b, s_b, y_b)$  from  $\mathcal{T}$

Calculate the mean and variance of the transformations:

$$m_f \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b f_{\omega_f}(h_{\omega_h}(x_i)) ; m_g \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b g_{\omega_g}(s_i)$$

$$\sigma_f^2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b (f_{\omega_f}(h_{\omega_h}(x_i)) - m_f)^2$$

$$\sigma_g^2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b (g_{\omega_g}(s_i) - m_g)^2$$

Standardize the transformations:

$$\forall i : \hat{f}_{\omega_f}(h_{\omega_h}(x_i)) \leftarrow \frac{f_{\omega_f}(h_{\omega_h}(x_i)) - m_f}{\sqrt{\sigma_f^2 + \epsilon}}$$

$$\forall i : \hat{g}_{\omega_g}(s_i) \leftarrow \frac{g_{\omega_g}(s_i) - m_g}{\sqrt{\sigma_g^2 + \epsilon}}$$

Compute the objectives:

$$J(\omega_f, \omega_g) = \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b \hat{f}_{\omega_f}(h_{\omega_h}(x_i)) * \hat{g}_{\omega_g}(s_i)$$

$$L(\omega_h, \omega_f, \omega_g) = \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b \mathcal{L}(h_{\omega_h}(x_i), y_i) + \lambda J(\omega_f, \omega_g)$$

Update the adversary by gradient ascent:

$$\omega_f \leftarrow \omega_f + \alpha_f \frac{\partial J(\omega_f, \omega_g)}{\partial \omega_f} ; \omega_g \leftarrow \omega_g + \alpha_g \frac{\partial J(\omega_f, \omega_g)}{\partial \omega_g}$$

Update the predictor model  $h_{\omega_h}$  by gradient descent:

$$\omega_h \leftarrow \omega_h - \alpha_h \left( \frac{\partial L(\omega_h, \omega_f, \omega_g)}{\partial \omega_h} \right)$$

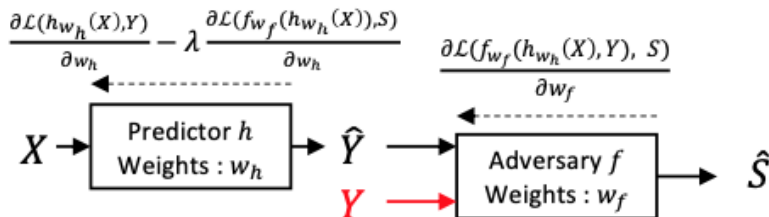

---

## Improving equalized odds

- $\arg \min_h \{ \mathcal{L}(h(X), Y) + \lambda p(h(X), S, Y) \}$
- the penalization term evaluates the correlation loss between the output prediction and the sensitive attribute given the expected outcome

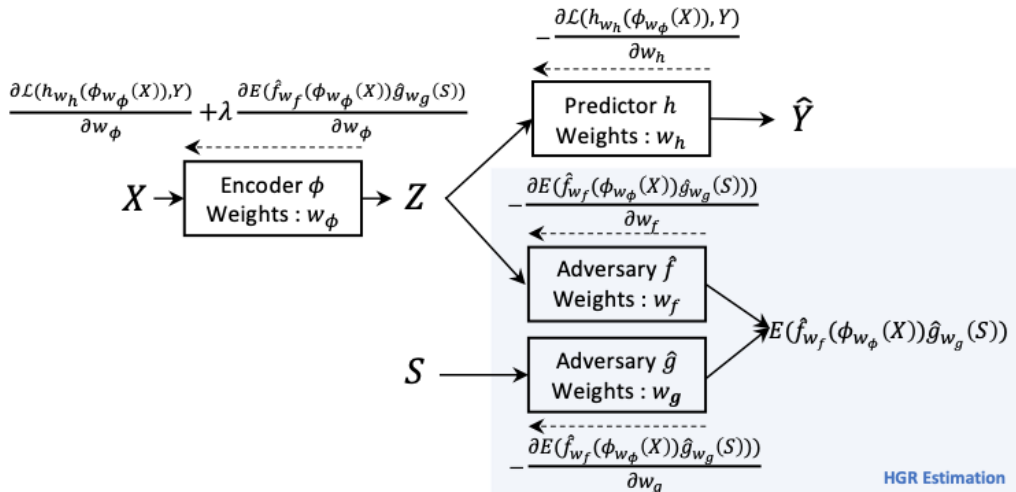
## Adversarial simple architecture

$$\blacksquare \arg \min_h \left\{ \max_f \left\{ \mathcal{L}_{pred}(h(X), Y) + \lambda \mathcal{L}_{adv}(f(h(X), Y), S) \right\} \right\}$$



## Rényi adversarial architecture extension (Grari et al., 2020)

$$\min_{h, \phi} \left\{ \max_{f, g} \left\{ \mathcal{L}_{pred}(h(X), Y) + \lambda \mathbb{E}_{XS}(\hat{f}(\phi(X))\hat{g}(S)) \right\} \right\}$$



---

## Algorithm 4 Rényi Fair Representation

---

**Input:** Training set  $\mathcal{T}$ , Loss function  $\mathcal{L}$ , Batchsize  $b$ , Epochs for HGR  $n_{HGR}$

Neural Networks  $\phi_{w_\phi}, h_{w_h}, f_{w_f}$  and  $g_{w_g}$ ,

Learning rates  $\alpha_f, \alpha_g, \alpha_\phi$  and  $\alpha_h$ . Fairness control  $\lambda$

**Repeat**

Draw  $b$  samples  $(x_1, s_1, y_1), \dots, (x_b, s_b, y_b)$  from  $\mathcal{T}$

Compute the predictor objective:

$$L_Y(w_h, \phi_{w_\phi}) = \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b \mathcal{L}(h_{w_h}(\phi_{w_\phi}(x_i)), y_i)$$

Update the predictor model  $h_{w_h}$  by gradient descent:

$$w_h \leftarrow w_h - \alpha_h \left( \frac{\partial L_Y}{\partial w_h} \right)$$

**Repeat**  $n_{HGR}$  times

Calculate the mean and variance of the transformations:

$$m_f \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b f_{w_f}(\phi_{w_\phi}(x_i)) ; m_g \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b g_{w_g}(s_i)$$

$$\sigma_f^2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b (f_{w_f}(\phi_{w_\phi}(x_i)) - m_f)^2$$

$$\sigma_g^2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b (g_{w_g}(s_i) - m_g)^2$$

Standardize the transformations:

$$\forall i : \hat{f}_{w_f}(\phi_{w_\phi}(x_i)) \leftarrow \frac{f_{w_f}(\phi_{w_\phi}(x_i)) - m_f}{\sqrt{\sigma_f^2 + \epsilon}}$$

$$\forall i : \hat{g}_{w_g}(s_i) \leftarrow \frac{g_{w_g}(s_i) - m_g}{\sqrt{\sigma_g^2 + \epsilon}}$$

Compute the objectives:

$$J(w_f, w_g, w_\phi) = \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b \hat{f}_{w_f}(\phi_{w_\phi}(x_i)) * \hat{g}_{w_g}(s_i)$$

$$L_E(w_h, w_\phi, w_f, w_g) = \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^b \mathcal{L}(h_{w_h}(\phi_{w_\phi}(x_i)), y_i) + \lambda J(w_f, w_g, w_\phi)$$

Update the adversary by gradient ascent:

$$w_f \leftarrow w_f + \alpha_f \frac{\partial J}{\partial w_f} ; w_g \leftarrow w_g + \alpha_g \frac{\partial J}{\partial w_g}$$

Update the encoder model  $\phi_{w_\phi}$  by gradient descent:

$$w_\phi \leftarrow w_\phi - \alpha_\phi \left( \frac{\partial L_E}{\partial w_\phi} \right)$$


---

### 1 Group fairness

- Overview
- Problem statement
- Measuring fairness
- Ensuring group fairness

### 2 Individual fairness

- Overview
- Problem statement
- Measuring fairness

### 3 Conclusion

### 4 TME

- *"similar people should be treated similarly"* → existence of similarity measure
  - finding individuals with the most disparate treatment
  - oracle indentifying fairness violations
- Counterfactual fairness
  - produce similar outcomes for every alternate version of any individual

## Classification or regression problem

- $X$  : attributes
- $S$  : sensitive attributes
- predict  $Y \in \mathcal{Y}$  from  $X \in \mathcal{X}$
- predictor :  $y = h(x)$
- $d(x, x')$  : distance metric between individuals  $x$  and  $x'$



## Fairness Through Awareness (FTA) (Dwork et al., 2012)

- A predictor  $h$  achieves *Individual Fairness* with respect to a distance metric  $d$  on the input space  $\mathcal{X}$  if  $h$  is  $K$ -lipschitz for a certain  $K$ .
- $\forall x, x' \in \mathcal{X}, |h(x) - h(x')| \leq Kd(x, x')$

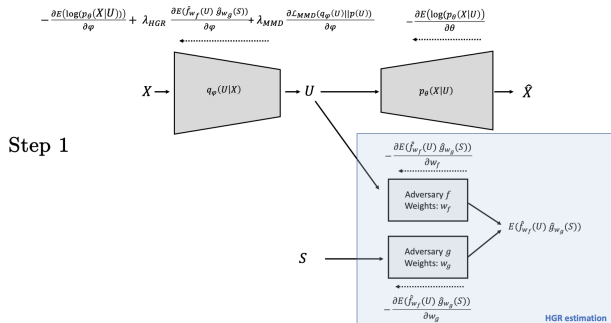
→ **The metric  $d(\cdot, \cdot)$  must be carefully chosen, requiring an understanding of the domain at hand beyond black-box statistical modeling.**

### Example : promotion denied

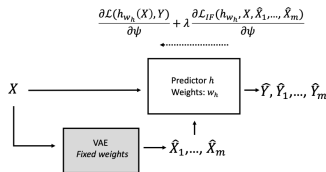
- Classification model (promoted ; not promoted)
- Sensitive feature : privileged group

**Demographic parity : not promoted for belonging to a privileged group**

**FTA : merit within the group is taken into account**



Step 2



## Counterfactual Individual Fairness (Kusner et al., 2017)

- A predictor  $h$  achieves *Counterfactual Fairness* if under any context  $X = x$  and  $S = s$ , the outcome probability is the same for individual  $x_{S \leftarrow s}$  and counterfactual  $x_{S \leftarrow s'}$  for all  $s' \neq s$ .
- $\forall y \in \mathcal{Y}, \forall s' \neq s, \mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}_{S \leftarrow s} = y | X = x, S = s\} = \mathbb{P}\{\hat{Y}_{S \leftarrow s'} = y | X = x, S = s\}$

### Example : accident rate

- Classification model (number of accidents)
- Sensitive feature  $S$  : race
- Unobserved variable  $U$  : aggressive driving
  - causes drivers to be more likely have an accident
  - causes individuals to prefer red cars (in  $X$ )
- Individuals belonging to a certain race  $A$  are more likely to drive red cars
- These individuals are no more likely to be aggressive or to get in accidents than anyone else

## Omitting $S$ may introduce unfairness

## Total Causal Effect

- $TCE = \mathbb{P}\{Y_{S \leftarrow s'}\} - \mathbb{P}\{Y_{S \leftarrow s}\}$

## Total Predictions Effect

- $TPE = \mathbb{P}\{h(X_{S \leftarrow s'})\} - \mathbb{P}\{h(X_{S \leftarrow s})\}$

### 1 Group fairness

- Overview
- Problem statement
- Measuring fairness
- Ensuring group fairness

### 2 Individual fairness

- Overview
- Problem statement
- Measuring fairness

### 3 Conclusion

### 4 TME

- Mathematically modeling fairness
- Group fairness vs. individual fairness
- Quantify different fairness objectives
- Bias mitigation algorithms on output predictions / latent representation

### 1 Group fairness

- Overview
- Problem statement
- Measuring fairness
- Ensuring group fairness

### 2 Individual fairness

- Overview
- Problem statement
- Measuring fairness

### 3 Conclusion

### 4 TME

## Datasets

- The **US Census demographic** data set is an extraction of the 2015 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. It contains 37 information features about 74,000 American census tracts. Predict the percentage of children below the poverty line. Consider gender as a sensitive attribute encoded as the percentage of the women in the census tract.
- The **Crime data** set is obtained from the UCI Machine Learning Repository (Dua and Graff, 2017). This data set includes a total of 128 attributes for 1,994 instances from communities in the US. Predict the number of violent crimes per population for US communities. Use the race information with the ratio of an ethnic group per population as sensitive attribute.
- The **COMPAS data** set (Angwin et al., 2016) contains 13 attributes of about 7,000 convicted criminals with class labels that state whether or not the individual reoffended within 2 years of their most recent crime. Use age as sensitive attribute.



## Work to do

- Choose one data set
- Learn a prediction model
- Measure the fairness of the model using one appropriate metric