

Lecture 14:  
Classification

COMP90049  
Knowledge  
Technologies

Classification

Definition

Methods

Linear Regression

Prediction

$k$  - Nearest

Neighbour

Naive Bayes

Summary

## Lecture 14: Classification

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Sarah Erfani and Karin Verspoor, CIS

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# What is Classification?

Classification involves predicting a discrete class or classes.  
Those classes are defined in advance.

Binary (yes/no)

- Deciding whether a lone application is risky or not
- 
- 
- Will a student skip class on Friday?

Multi-class

- Categorise a document into newspaper, entertainment, health)
- Recognise images of digits (0-9)
- Discriminating between different species of e.g. a kind of plant or an insect.
- Predicting type of cancer from gene expression data.

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Given: **1** a fixed representation language of *attributes*

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*the category of a novel input*

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Model: discover the function that *p* *given a*  
previously unseen *x*

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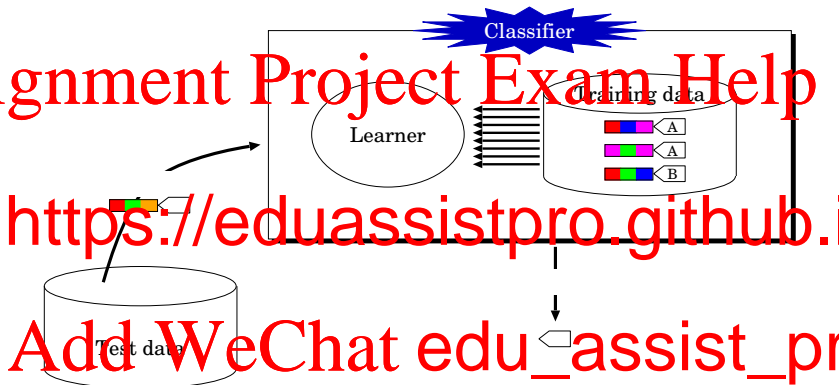
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The goal of learning from examples is not to **memorise** but rather to **generalise**, e.g., predict.

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Can we predict housing prices?

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A friend has a house which is 750 square feet — h  
expect to get?

(draw a straight line vs. fit a curve)

Linear regression captures a relationship between two variables or attributes.

It makes the assumption that there is a *linear* relationship between the two variables.

le, or

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At its most basic, the relationship can be expressed as a deterministic function.

$$y = f(x)$$

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot x$$

$$y = \beta \cdot x \text{ (given } x_0 = 1)$$

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Linear functions are more basic than non-linear functions  
(mathematically)

They capture that changes in one variable correlate linearly with

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[The more umbrellas you sell, the more money you make is directly proportional to the number of umbrellas you sell.]

**Applicability:** Regression can be applied when all variables/attributes are real numbers.

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From Schutt & O'Neil, *Doing Data Science*



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Want to choose the *best* line.

Operationally, the line that minimises the distance between a points and the line.

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and observed  $y_i$ s. Put another way, we want  $\hat{y}_i$  for each  $x_i$  that is closest to the known

$\hat{y}_i$ s  
duces

Minimise the Residual Sum of Squares (RSS  
(aka Sum of Squares Due to Error (SSE)):

$$RSS(\beta) = \sum_i (y_i - \beta x_i)^2$$

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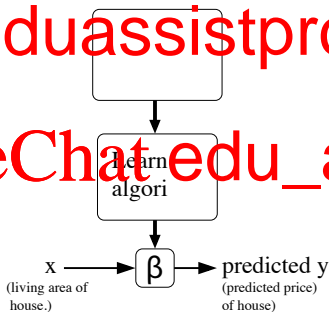
Naive Bayes

Summary

Armed with a linear model  $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 * x$ , we can straightforwardly predict a continuous valued output for  $y$  given a value of  $x$ .

We derive that linear model by estimating it from training examples.

Given examples  $(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ , we determine  $\beta$  through



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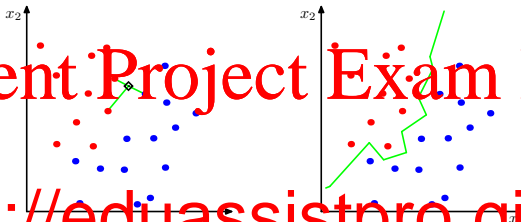
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Given class assignments for existing data (black),  
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- (a) According to the class membership of the  $K$  closest data points.
- (b) For  $k = 1$ , the induced decision boundary.

See: Charles Elkan, UCSD, 2011 lecture notes (posted on LMS)

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**[1-NN]:** Classify the test input according to the class of the closest training instance.

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are based on similarity of the input to each of the

**Offset-weighted  $k$ -NN:** Classify the test input according to the weighted accumulative class of the  $k$  nearest neighbours, where the weights are based on similarity of the input to each neighbour, factoring in an offset to indicate the prior expectation of a test input being classified as being a member of that class.

## k-Nearest Neighbour classification implementation

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The most naive neighbour search implementation involves the brute-force computation of distances between all pairs of points in the dataset.

For  $N$  samples in  $D$  dimensions, this approach scales as  $O(DN^2)$ .



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Alternative: tree-based data structures



These structures attempt to reduce the number of distance calculations by efficiently encoding the data for the sample.

- The basic idea is that if point A is very distant from point B, and point B is very close to point C, then we know that points A and C are very distant, without having to explicitly calculate their distance.
- In this way, the computational cost of a nearest neighbours search can be reduced to  $O(DN \log(N))$  or better.

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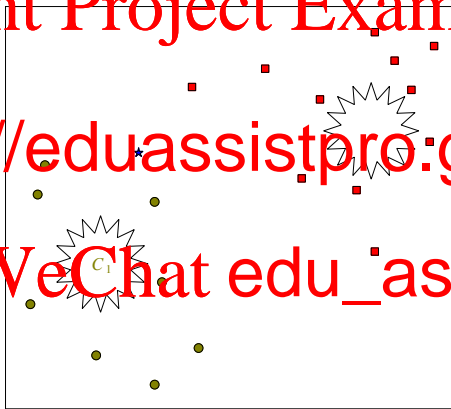
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The nearest neighbour approach corresponds to classification by “hyper-spheres” (or “hyper-ellipsoids”)



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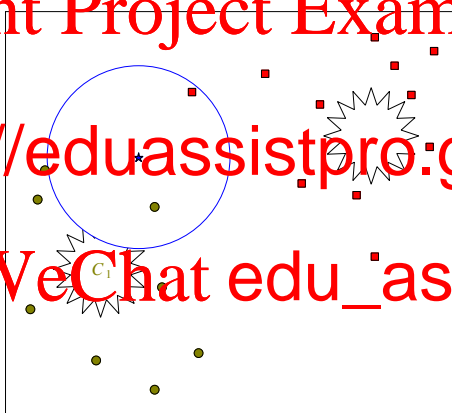
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### Strengths

#### ■ Simple

- Can handle arbitrarily many classes (multi-class and multi-label)

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- We need some sort of averaging or voting

the labels of multiple training examples  
obvious to design.

- Expensive (in terms of index accesses)
- Everything is done at run time (lazy learner)
- Prone to bias
- Arbitrary  $k$  value

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possible categories given a descripti

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$$P(C|X) = \frac{P(\text{_____})}{\text{_____}}$$

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- Task: classify an instance  $X = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle$  according to one of the classes  $c_j \in C$

$$c = \operatorname{argmax}_{c_j \in C} P(c_j | x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

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- posterior  $P(c_j | x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{P(c_j) \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | c_j)}{P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}$
- Predicts  $X$  belongs to  $c_i$  iff the probability  $P(c_i | X)$  is the highest among all the  $P(c_k | X)$  for all the  $K$  classes
- Since  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is constant for all classes, only  $P(c_j) \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | c_j)$  needs to be maximised.

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(given a

class).

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- 1 Typically not enough data to estimate this accurately.
- 2 Common to encounter the situation where there are no training examples for a particular combination.
- 3 This would likely lead to over-fitting (biased to combinations for which there are examples).

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- $P(c_j)$

- can be estimated from the frequency of classes in the training

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- Naive Bayes Conditional Independent

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- assume that the probability of obser equal to the product of the individual p [hence “naive”]

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$$= \operatorname{argmax}_{c_j \in C} P(c_j) \quad P(x_i | c_j)$$

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# Naive Bayes Example

Given a training data set, what are the probabilities we need to estimate?

Headache	Sore	Temperature	Cough	Diagnosis
severe	mild	high	yes	Flu
no	severe	normal	yes	Cold
		n	no	Flu
				Cold

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Ann comes to the clinic with severe headache, no soreness, normal temperature and with cough. What does she have with highest probability.

$$P(\text{Flu} | \text{Headache} = \text{severe}, \text{Sore} = \text{no}, \text{Temperature} = \text{normal}, \text{Cough} = \text{yes}) \\ \sim P(\text{Flu}) * P(\text{Headache} = \text{severe} | \text{Flu}) * P(\text{Sore} = \text{no} | \text{Flu}) * P(\text{Temperature} = \text{normal} | \text{Flu}) * P(\text{Cough} = \text{yes} | \text{Flu})$$

$$P(\text{Cold} | \text{Headache} = \text{severe}, \text{Sore} = \text{no}, \text{Temperature} = \text{normal}, \text{Cough} = \text{yes}) \\ \sim P(\text{Cold}) * P(\text{Headache} = \text{severe} | \text{Cold}) * P(\text{Sore} = \text{no} | \text{Cold}) * P(\text{Temperature} = \text{normal} | \text{Cold}) * P(\text{Cough} = \text{yes} | \text{Cold})$$

# Estimating probabilities

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$$P(Flu) = 3/5$$

$$P(Headache = severe|Flu) = 2/3$$

$$P(Headache = mild|Flu) = 1/3$$

$$P(Headache = no|Flu) = 0/3 (= e)$$

$$P(Sore = severe|Flu) = 1/3$$

$$P(Sore = mild|Flu) = 2/3$$

$$P(Sore = no|Flu) = 0/3 (= e)$$

$$P(Cold) = 2/5$$

$$P(Headache = severe|Cold) = 0/2 (= e)$$

$$P(Headache = mild|Cold) = 1/2$$

$$P(Headache = no|Cold) = 1/2$$

$$P(Sore = severe|Cold) = 1/2$$

$$P(Sore = mild|Cold) = 0/2 (= e)$$

$$P(Sore = no|Cold) = 1/2$$

$$P(Temperature = normal|Cold) = 0/2 (= e)$$

$$P(Temperature = feverish|Cold) = 2/2$$

$$P(Cough = yes|Cold) = 1/2$$

$$P(Cough = no|Cold) = 1/2$$

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Set 0/y to e, a small value like  $10^{-7}$  (or 1  
training instances)

$$P(Flu|Headache = severe, Sore = no,$$

$$\sim P(Flu) * P(Headache = severe|Flu)$$

$$* P(Sore = no|Flu) * P(Cough = yes|Flu) = 3/5 * 2/3 * e * 2/3 * 3/3 = 0.26e$$

$$P(Cold|Headache = severe, Sore = no, Temperature = normal, Cough = yes)$$

$$\sim P(Cold) * P(Headache = severe|Cold) * P(Sore =$$

$$no|Cold) * P(Temperature = normal|Cold) * P(Cough = yes|Cold)$$

$$= 2/5 * e * 1/2 * 1 * 1/2 = 0.1e$$

Diagnosis is Flu

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Naive Bayes (NB) Classifier is very simple to build, extremely fast to make decisions, and easy to change the probabilities when the new

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- Scales easily for large number of dimensions (100s) and data sizes.
- Easy to explain the reason for the decision
- One should apply NB first before launching classification techniques.

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required to make the computation tra

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Witten, Frank, Hall (2011) Data Mining. Chapter 4. ( $kD$  tree, ball tree)

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