NEAREST NEIGHBOR CLASSIFICATION

Instance Based Classifiers

- Examples:
 - Rote-learner
 - Memorizes entire training data and performs classification only if attributes of record match one of the training examples exactly

- Nearest neighbor
 - Uses k "closest" points (nearest neighbors) for performing classification

Nearest Neighbor Classifiers

■ Basic idea:

If it walks like a duck, quacks like a duck, then it's probably a duck Compute Test Record **Distance** Choose k of the Training Records "nearest" records

Instance-Based Classifiers

Set of Stored Cases

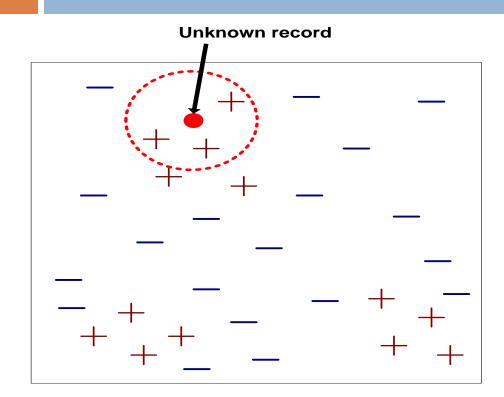
| Atr1 | AtrN | Class |
|------|----------|-------|
| | | A |
| | | В |
| | | В |
| | | С |
| | | Α |
| | | С |
| | | В |

- Store the training records
- Use training records to predict the class label of unseen cases

Unseen Case

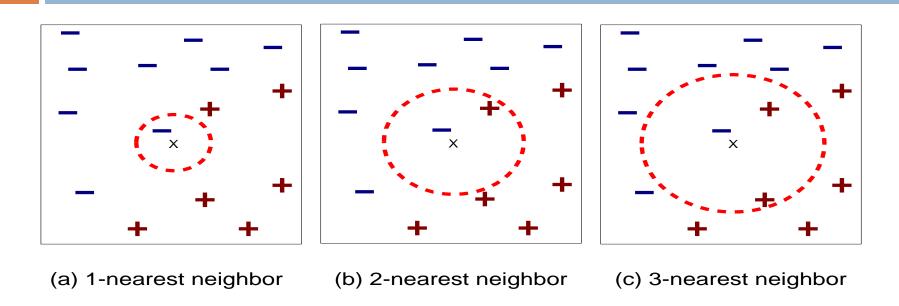
| Atr1 | AtrN |
|------|----------|
| | |

Nearest-Neighbor Classifiers



- Requires three things
 - The set of stored records
 - Distance Metric to compute distance between records
 - The value of k, the number of nearest neighbors to retrieve
- To classify an unknown record:
 - Compute distance to other training records
 - Identify k nearest neighbors
 - Use class labels of nearest

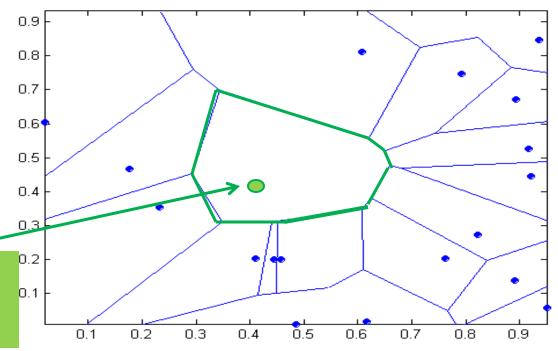
Definition of Nearest Neighbor



K-nearest neighbors of a record x are data points that have the k smallest distance to x

1 nearest-neighbor

Voronoi Diagram defines the classification boundary



The area takes the class of the green point