

CS685: DATA MINING

LAZY LEARNERS AND

CLASS IMBALANCE

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- Examples
 - **K-nearest-neighbor (kNN)** classifier
 - **Case-based reasoning (CBR)** classifier

K-Nearest-Neighbor (KNN) Classifier

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- Finding *k* nearest neighbors is costly without any pre-processing or indexing

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- Can be considered as a special case of KNN classifier

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- Class imbalance in training data is a practical problem
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- **Under-sampling** the more frequent class
 - Randomly selecting a subset
 - May underfit
- **Over-sampling** the less frequent class
 - Ends up choosing a point multiple times
 - May not help or may overfit

SMOTE

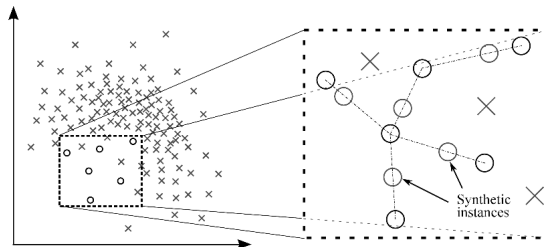
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SMOTE

- **SMOTE** algorithm (**S**ynthetic **M**inority **O**ver-**S**ampling **T**echnique)
- Generates **synthetic** examples in the less frequent class
- For a randomly selected point \vec{u} , find a random nearest neighbor \vec{w} within the *same* class
- Generate a new point \vec{v} as

$$\vec{v} = \vec{u} + p \cdot (\vec{w} - \vec{u})$$

where $p \in (0, 1)$ is a uniform random number



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- Need a special strategy if none of the classes is assigned
- For m original classes, $2^m - 1$ combinations of classes
- Requires large training set