# Machine Learning (CE 40717) Fall 2025

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- Performance metrics
- 2 Imbalanced Data
- 3 Cross Validation

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### **Evaluation Context**

- Model evaluation quantifies predictive performance on unseen data.
- Metrics are derived from the confusion matrix:

	Predicted Positive	Predicted Negative
Actual Positive	TP	FN
Actual Negative	FP	TN

• TP, TN, FP, FN provide the foundation for classification performance indices.

### Accuracy in classification problems

- Accuracy is one of the simplest and most commonly used performance metrics.
- It is defined as the ratio of correctly predicted instances to the total instances:

$$Accuracy = \frac{True\ Positives + True\ Negatives}{Total\ Samples}$$

Error Rate: complement of accuracy

Error Rate = 
$$\frac{FP + FN}{TP + TN + FP + FN} = 1 - Accuracy$$

• However, accuracy alone can be misleading, especially with imbalanced datasets.

### Example: cancer detection problem

- Imagine a dataset with 1000 patients:
  - Only 10 have cancer (**positive class**).
  - 990 do not have cancer (**negative class**).
- A classifier predicts that no one has cancer (predicts all as negative).
- What will be the accuracy of this model?

### Example: cancer detection problem cont.

Look at this table for our model which predict negative all the time:

	<b>Predicted Negative</b>	<b>Predicted Positive</b>	
<b>Actual Negative</b>	990 (TN)	0 (FP)	
<b>Actual Positive</b>	10 (FN)	0 (TP)	

Accuracy = 
$$\frac{990 + 0}{1000}$$
 = 99%

**High accuracy**, but the model fails to detect any actual cases of cancer!

# Why accuracy can be misleading

- In highly imbalanced datasets (e.g., cancer detection), the **minority class** (positive cases) is often underrepresented.
- A model that always predicts the majority class can still have high accuracy, but poor real-world performance.
- In the cancer detection example, 99% accuracy sounds good, but the model doesn't detect any actual cancer cases.
- We need better metrics to evaluate model performance.

### Performance metrics

#### • Scenario:

- An alarm system can either ring or not ring when a thief is present.
- Let's define the outcomes:
  - True Positive (TP): Alarm rings (correctly) when a thief is present.
  - True Negative (TN): Alarm does not ring (correctly) when no thief is present.
  - False Positive (FP): Alarm rings (incorrectly) when no thief is present (a false alarm).
  - False Negative (FN): Alarm does not ring (incorrectly) when a thief is present (a missed alarm).

	Thief Present	No Thief Present
Alarm Rings	TP	FP
<b>Alarm Does Not Ring</b>	FN	TN



#### Performance metrics cont.

#### • Metrics:

**Sensitivity (Recall):** 

Sensitivity = 
$$\frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

Indicates the ability of the alarm system to correctly identify a thief. It is the proportion of actual positives (thief present) that are correctly identified.

**Specificity**:

Specificity = 
$$\frac{TN}{TN + FP}$$

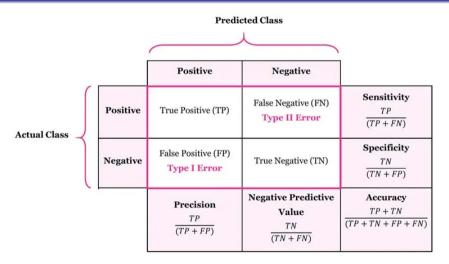
Measures the ability of the alarm system to correctly identify when no thief is present. It is the proportion of actual negatives that are correctly identified.

Precision:

$$Precision = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

Indicates the accuracy of the alarm when it rings. It is the proportion of times the alarm rang and a thief was indeed present out of all the times the alarm was activated.

### Performance metrics cont.



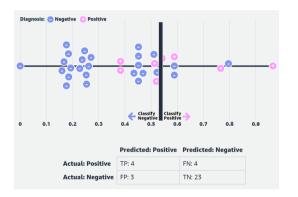
### A combined measure: F1

- Combined measure: **F1 measure** 
  - allows us to trade off precision and recall
  - Provides a single measure balancing precision and recall.
  - Useful in imbalanced datasets or when both types of error are significant.
  - Trade-off: Increasing recall typically decreases precision and vice versa.
  - harmonic mean of P and R:

$$\frac{1}{F} = \frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{P} + \frac{1}{R}) \Rightarrow F = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2P} + \frac{1}{2R}} = \frac{2PR}{P + R}$$

### Precision/recall/F1

• This website could give you a perfect intuition about precision recall trade-off



• Link: https://mlu-explain.github.io/precision-recall/

# Why harmonic mean?

- Why don't we use a different mean of P and R as a measure?
  - e.g., the arithmetic mean
- The simple (arithmetic) mean is 50% for "return true for every thing", which is too high.
- Desideratum: Punch really bad performance either on precision or recall
  - Taking the minimum achieves this.
  - F (harmonic mean) is a kind of **smooth minimum**.

### When to use harmonic mean?

- Averaging rates or ratios, like speeds, densities, or prices-to-earnings ratios.
- When dealing with data that has a wide range of values and you want to minimize the effect of large outliers.

#### How to calculate the harmonic mean

- **Ount the number of values:** Find the total count (n) of the numbers in the dataset.
- **2** Find the reciprocal of each value: For each number in the set, calculate its reciprocal (1 divided by the number).
- **3** Sum of reciprocals: Add all reciprocals calculated in previous step.
- **4 Divide:** Divide the total count (n) by the sum of reciprocals.

# Example

- To find the average speed of a trip that involves two different speeds, we use the harmonic mean.
- Scenario: Imagine a car travels 10km at 60 km/h, then travels another 10km at 20 km/h.

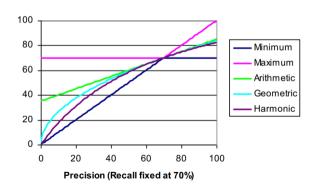
#### Calculation:

- Since there are two speeds, n = 2.
- Reciprocals:  $\frac{1}{60}$  and  $\frac{1}{20}$ .
- Sum of reciprocals:  $\frac{20}{60} + \frac{1}{20} = \frac{4}{60}$ . Harmonic mean =  $\frac{2}{4} = 30$  km/h.

### F1 and other averages

• Harmonic mean is a conservative average. We can view the harmonic mean as a kind of soft minimum

#### Combined Measures



### Comparative Overview

Metric	Formula	Focus	Typical Use-Case
Accuracy	$\frac{TP+TN}{TP+FP+FN+TN}$	Overall correctness	Balanced classes
Precision	$\frac{TP}{TP+FP}$	False positive control	Spam detection, IR
Recall	$\frac{TP}{TP+FN}$	False negative control	Medical diagnosis, anomaly detection
F1-Score	$2\frac{\overline{TP+FN}}{P+R}$	Balance	Imbalanced or skewed datasets

- Metric choice should reflect operational objectives and misclassification costs.
- Always interpret metrics in conjunction with the confusion matrix.

### Confusion matrix

- The **confusion matrix** is a **table** used to evaluate the performance of a classification model.
- It compares the actual values (true labels) with the predicted values from the model.
- Each row of the matrix represents the actual class, while each column represents the predicted class.
- It helps us understand not just how often the model is correct, but also where it makes mistakes.

### Confusion matrix cont.

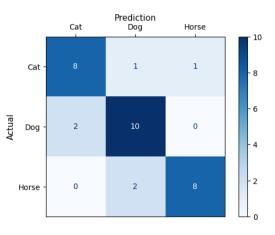
- Let's consider an image classification task where we classify images into three categories: \*\*Cat\*\*, \*\*Dog\*\*, and \*\*Horse\*\*.
- After training the model, we evaluate its predictions against the actual labels.

	Predicted Cat	Predicted Dog	Predicted Horse
Actual Cat	True Positive (TP)	False Negative (FN)	False Negative (FN)
Actual Dog	False Negative (FN)	True Positive (TP)	False Negative (FN)
<b>Actual Horse</b>	False Negative (FN)	False Negative (FN)	True Positive (TP)

### Confusion matrix cont.

- Here is an example confusion matrix for a model that classifies images of cats, dogs, and horses:
- We can see that the model classified 8 images of cats correctly, but it classified 1 cat as a dog and 1 cat as a horse (False Negatives).
- Similarly, it made 2 mistakes when predicting dogs and horses.

#### Confusion Matrix



#### Per class evaluation measures

- **Definition:** For our **confusion matrix** C, each **element**  $C_{ij}$  denotes the number of samples actually in class i that were put in class j by our classifier.
  - Now we could rewrite our performance metrics with confusion matrix view
- Recall: Fraction of the samples in class *i* classified correctly:

$$\frac{C_{ii}}{\sum_{j} C_{ij}}$$

• Precision: Fraction of the samples assigned class *i* that are actually about class *i*:

$$\frac{C_{ii}}{\sum_{j} C_{ji}}$$

• Accuracy: Fraction of the samples classified correctly:

$$\frac{\sum_{i} C_{ii}}{\sum_{j} \sum_{i} C_{ij}}$$

### Averaging: macro vs. micro

- We now have an evaluation measure (F1) for one class.
- But we also want a single number that shows aggregate performance over all classes

# Micro- vs. Macro-Averaging

- If we have more than one class, how do we combine multiple performance measures into one quantity?
- Macroaveraging: Compute performance for each class, then average
  - Compute F1 for each of the *C* classes
  - Average these *C* numbers
- Microaveraging: Collect decisions for all classes, aggregate them and then compute measure.
  - Compute TP, FP, FN for each of the *C* classes.
  - Sum these *C* numbers(e.g, all TP to get aggregate TP)
  - Compute F1 for aggregate TP, FP, FN

# Micro- vs. Macro-Averaging: example

Class 1

Class 2

Micro Ave. Table

	Truth: yes	Truth:
Classifier: yes	10	10
Classifier: no	10	970

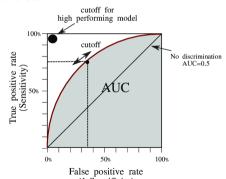
	Truth: yes	Truth:
Classifier: yes	90	10
Classifier: no	10	890

	Truth: yes	Truth:
Classifier: yes	100	20
Classifier: no	20	1860

- Macroaveraged precision: (0.5 + 0.9)/2 = 0.7
- Microaveraged precision: 100/120 = 0.83
- Microaveraged score is dominated by score on common classes

#### **AUC-ROC**

- Area Under the Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve
  - ROC (Receiver Operating Characteristic) is a graphical representation of the performance of a binary classification model.
  - It plots the true positive rate (TPR) against the false positive rate (FPR) at different classification thresholds.



#### AUC-ROC cont.

- A high AUC score indicates that the model has good discrimination ability, i.e., it can
  effectively differentiate between positive and negative instances at different
  classification thresholds.
- Conversely, a lower AUC-ROC score suggests that the model struggles to differentiate between the two classes.
- AUC ranges from 0 to 1, with 0.5 indicating random guessing and 1 indicating a perfect classifier.

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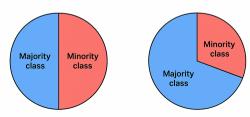
#### The Problem: Imbalanced Data

• Real-world datasets often contain classes with unequal representation.

### Examples:

- Fraud detection: 0.1% Fraud, 99.9% Non-Fraud
- Medical diagnosis: 2% Disease, 98% Healthy
- **Issue:** High accuracy may hide poor performance on the minority class.

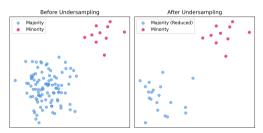
#### Balanced vs. Imbalanced Datasets



# Solution 1: Resampling Techniques

### **Undersampling**

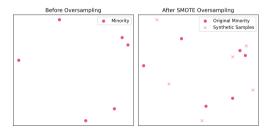
- Remove samples from majority class.
- + Reduces training time.
- - Risk of losing information.



Majority class reduced.

### Oversampling (e.g., SMOTE)

- Generate synthetic minority samples.
- + Preserves information.
- - May cause overfitting.



New minority points added via interpolation.

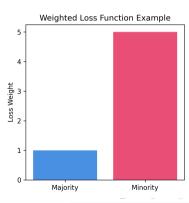
### Solution 2: Algorithmic Approaches

### **Weighted Loss Function**

- Assign a higher penalty to errors on the minority class.
- Encourages the model to focus on rare but important cases.

$$J(w) = -\sum_{i} w_{y^{(i)}} y^{(i)} \log(\hat{y}^{(i)})$$

where  $w_{v(i)}$  is larger for the minority class.



# Hybrid Approaches

### **Combining Sampling Strategies**

• Integrates both oversampling and undersampling to achieve better class balance.

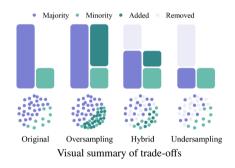
### **Typical Pipeline:**

- **1** Apply **SMOTE** to synthetically augment minority samples.
- 2 Randomly undersample the majority class to reduce imbalance.
- 3 Train the model on the newly balanced dataset.
- Provides a practical trade-off between **bias** and **variance**.

### Comparison of Methods

### **Summary**

- Sampling modifies data distribution (+ Simple, improves balance)
  - (- Risk of over/underfitting)
- Algorithmic adjusts model focus
   (+ No data change, interpretable)
   (- Needs careful weight tuning)
- **Hybrid** combines both strategies (+ Balanced, strong results)
  - (- More complex, slower training)



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### Model Selection via Cross Validation

#### Cross-Validation

- **Purpose**: Technique for evaluating how well a model generalizes to unseen data.
- How It Works: Split data into k folds; train on k-1 folds and validate on the remaining fold.
- **Repeat Process**: Repeat *k* times, rotating the test fold each time. Average of all scores is the final score of the model.
- Cross-validation reduces overfitting and provides a more reliable estimation of model performance.

### K-Fold Cross Validation

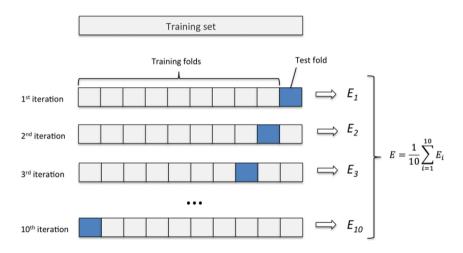
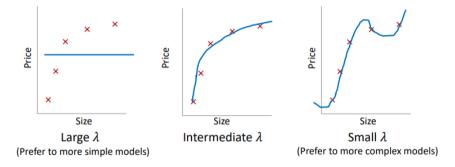


Figure adapted from Introduction to Support Vector Machines and Kernel Methods, J.M. Ashfaque.

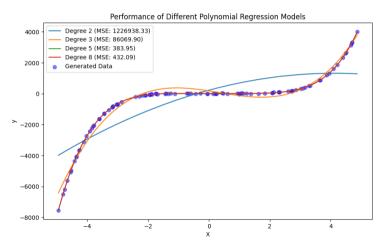
### Leave-One-Out Cross-Validation (LOOCV)

- Leave-One-Out Cross-Validation (LOOCV)
  - How It Works: Uses a single data point as the validation set (k = 1) and the rest as the training set. Repeat for all data points.
  - Properties:
    - No Data Wastage: Every data point is used for both training and validation.
    - High Variance, Low Bias.
    - Computationally Expensive: Requires training the model *N* times for *N* data points, making it slow for large datasets.
    - Best for small datasets.

# Cross-Validation for Choosing Regularization Term



# Cross-Validation for Choosing Model Complexity



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