# $\frac{\text{CSCI4150U: Data Mining}}{\text{Lab } 04}$

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## Preprocessing

## German Credit Data (K-NN)

This dataset contains a mixture of ordinal, nominal and numeric features. The ordinal and nominal features must be processed such that Minkowski distance provides a meaningful metric during k nearest neighbors classifications while retaining as much information as possible. We begin with the following features which have either a completely arbitrary ordering or contain only 2 unique values:

- attribute 4: Purpose
  - a list of purchases on credit
- attribute 9: Personal status and sex
  - an arbitrarily ordered list of marital status and sex
- attribute 19: Telephone
  - either have a Telephone (yes) or do not (no)
- attribute 20: Foreign worker
  - either is a foreign worker (yes) or is not (no)

We can use **one-hot encoding** for Attributes 4 and 9 as these features have multiple unique values and **label encoding** for attributes 19 and 20 as these features have only two unique values which makes ordering of label encoding irrelevant.

Figure 1: [Attributes 4 and 9 one-hot encoding]

Figure 2: [Attributes 19 and 20 label encoding]

The next set of features appear to have a clear ordinal ranking based on descriptions provided at (https://archive.ics.uci.edu/dataset/144/statlog+german+credit+data) with least credit-worthy values on the left to most credit-worthy values on the right:

- Attribute 1: Status of existing checking account
  - A11 (< 0 DM)  $\to$  A12 (0 <= & < 200 DM)  $\to$  A13 (>= 200 DM / salary assignments for at least 1 year)  $\to$  A14 (no checking account)
- Attribute 3: Credit history
  - A34 (critical account / other credits existing)  $\rightarrow$  A33 (delay in paying off in the past)  $\rightarrow$  A32 (existing credits paid back duly till now)  $\rightarrow$  A31 (all credits at this bank paid back duly)  $\rightarrow$  A30 (no credits taken / all credits paid back duly)
- Attribute 6: Savings account / bonds
  - A61 (< 100 DM) → A62 (100 <= & < 500 DM) → A63 (500 <= & < 1000 DM) → A64 (>= 1000 DM) → A65 (unknown / no savings account)
- Attribute 7: Present employment since
  - A71 (unemployed)  $\rightarrow$  A72 (< 1 year)  $\rightarrow$  A73 (1 <= & < 4 years)  $\rightarrow$  A74 (4 <= & < 7 years)  $\rightarrow$  A75 (>= 7 years)
- Attribute 12: Property
  - A124 (unknown / no property)  $\rightarrow$  A123 (car or other, not in attribute 6)  $\rightarrow$  A122 (building society savings agreement / life insurance)  $\rightarrow$  A121 (real estate)
- Attribute 17: Job
  - A171 (unemployed / unskilled non-resident)  $\rightarrow$  A172 (unskilled resident)  $\rightarrow$  A173 (skilled employee / official)  $\rightarrow$  A174 (management / self-employed / highly qualified employee / officer)

We can visualize the value distributions of each feature for each class:

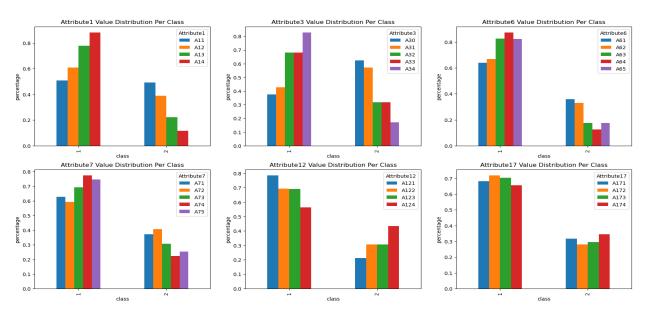


Figure 3: [Ordinal Features Visualization (Original Labeling)]

It can clearly be observed that the features do seem to closely adhere to their listed orderings and for features that do not, we can re-label them so their lexicographical order better fits the feature's observed order. This results in the following updated class distributions:

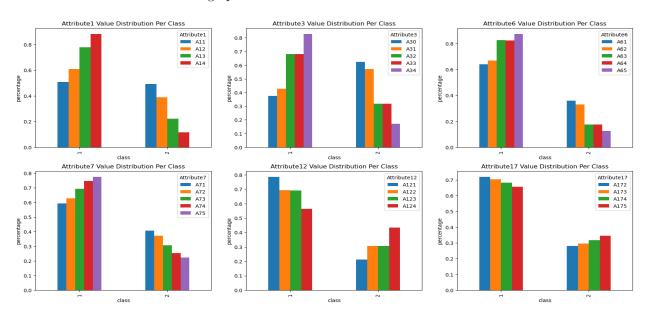


Figure 4: [Ordinal Features Visualization (Re-Labelled)]

Label encoding the above features should now result in labels that better capture feature order, allowing for more meaningful distance measures between objects during k-nearest neighbors classification.

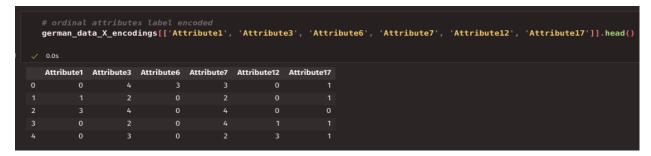


Figure 5: [Ordinal Features Visualization (Re-Labelled)]

For the remaining qualitative features, we can use a similar plotting method as above to explore the existence of order. Based on the strength of potential orderings, we can either re-label values and then proceed with label encoding or apply one-hot encoding.



Figure 6: [Qualitative Features Visualization (Original Labeling)]

Only Attribute 10 seems to contain a useful order relation from least credit-worthy to most credit-worthy as follows:

• A102 (co-applicant)  $\rightarrow$  A101 (no debtors/guarantors)  $\rightarrow$  A103 (guarantor)

Attributes 14 and 15 do not seem to possess meaningful orderings as 2 out of 3 values for both features have an almost equal distribution across both classes. Hence, we shall re-label Attribute 10 to change its lexicographical order before applying label encoding and apply one-hot encoding to Attributes 14 and 15.

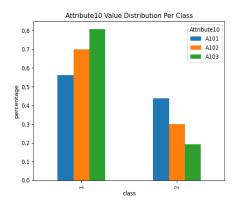


Figure 7: [Attribute 10 Visualization (Re-Labeled)]



Figure 8: [Attribute 10 Label Encoding, Attributes 14 & 15 One-Hot Encoding]

Finally, we standardize the numerical features of the dataset.

```
standard_scaler = StandardScaler()
numerical_attributes = ['Attribute2', 'Attribute5', 'Attribute8', 'Attribute1', 'Attribute13', 'Attribute16', 'Attribute18']
german_data_X_encodings[numerical_attributes] = standard_scaler.fit_transform(X=german_data_X_encodings[numerical_attributes])
german_data_X_encodings[numerical_attributes].head()
Attribute2 Attribute5 Attribute8 Attribute11 Attribute13 Attribute16 Attribute18
 -1.236478
            -0.745131
                      0.918477
                                  1.046987
                                              2.766456
                                                          1.027079
                                                                    -0.428290
  2.248194
             0.949817
                      -0.870183
                                  -0.765977
                                              -1.191404
                                                         -0.704926
                                                                    -0.428290
 -0.738668
            -0.416562
                      -0.870183
                                  0.140505
                                              1.183312
                                                         -0.704926
                                                                    2.334869
                                  1.046987
                                                                    2.334869
            1.634247 -0.870183
  1.750384
                                              0.831502
                                                         -0.704926
           0.566664
                       0.024147
                                  1.046987
                                              1.535122
                                                          1.027079
                                                                    2.334869
 0.256953
```

Figure 9: [Standardized Numerical Features]

### German Credit Data (Decision Tree)

SciKit-Learn's decision tree classifier requires non-string feature values. As such, we apply label encoding to all qualitative features in the German Credit dataset.

Figure 10: [Label Encoding German Data for Decision Tree Classification]

#### Waveform Data

All features of the waveform dataset are numeric by default with very similar scales making this dataset highly suitable for k-NN classification. The numeric data types are also compatible with scikit-learn's decision tree classifier. Hence, no preprocessing is required.

## Part I (Inference Efficiency):

## K-NN (k=5) and Decision Tree (Greedy, GINI, No Max Depth)

Figure 11: [K-NN Classification for German Dataset]



Figure 13: [K-NN Classification for Waveform Dataset]

Figure 12: [Decision Tree Classification for German Dataset]

Figure 14: [Decision Tree Classification for Waveform Dataset]

## Comparing Results

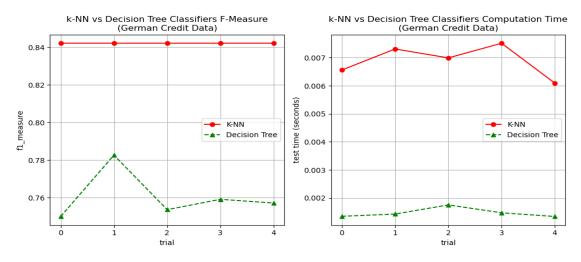


Figure 15: [K-NN vs Decision Tree Performance (German Dataset)]

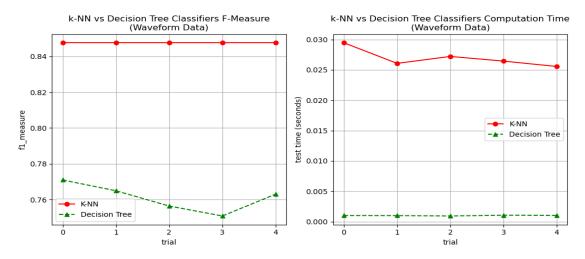


Figure 16: [K-NN vs Decision Tree Performance (Waveform Dataset)]

We see that k-NN is generally a more accurate form of classification than decision trees but also requires more elaborate preprocessing and greater inference times.

## Part II: Model Selection

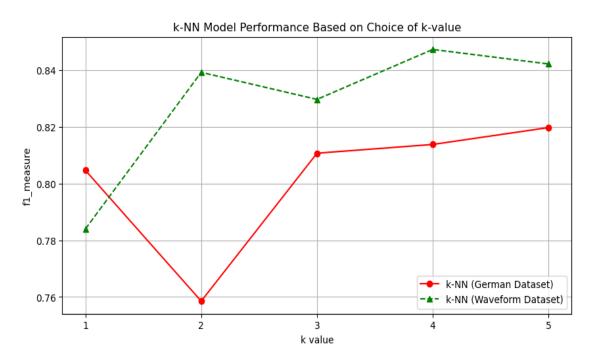


Figure 17: [K-NN Classification on Waveform and German Datasets for Different k]

Based on evaluations performed on the validation sets, the best k value for classifying Waveform data instances is k=4 and the best k value for classifying German credit data instances is k=5.

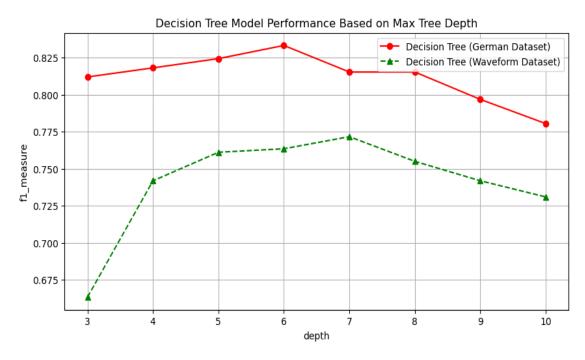


Figure 18: [Decision Tree Classification on Waveform and German Datasets with Different Max Depths]

Based on evaluations performed on the validation sets, the best max depth for classifying Waveform data instances is 7 and the best max depth for classifying German credit data instances is 6.