

Data Preprocessing



Big Data

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Data quality: Why preprocess the data?

- Measures for data quality
 - Accuracy: correct or wrong, accurate or not
 - Completeness: not recorded, unavailable, ...
 - Consistency: some modified but some not, dangling, ...
 - **Timeliness**: timely update?
 - **Trustness**: how trustable the data are correct?
 - Interpretability: how easily the data can be understood?



Major tasks in data preprocessing

1. Data cleaning

• Fill in missing values, smooth noisy data, identify or remove outliers, and resolve inconsistencies

2. Data integration

- Integration of multiple databases, data cubes, or files
- Need to handle data redundancy (e.g. chi-square test, correlation analysis)

3. Data reduction

- Dimensionality reduction
- Numerosity reduction (Sampling)
- Data compression

4. Data transformation

- Normalization
- Discretization or Binning



Data cleaning

- Data in the Real World Is Dirty: Lots of potentially incorrect data, e.g. instrument faulty, human or computer error, transmission error
 - a. incomplete: lacking attribute values, lacking certain attributes of interest, or containing only aggregate data
 - e.g. *Occupation=""* (missing data)
 - b. noisy: containing noise, errors, or outliers
 - e.g. Salary="-10" (an error)
 - c. inconsistent: containing discrepancies in codes or names, e.g.,
 - Age="42", Birthday="03/07/2010"
 - Was rating "1, 2, 3", now rating "A, B, C"
 - discrepancy between duplicate records
 - d. intentional (e.g. disguised missing data)
 - Jan. 1 as everyone's birthday?



Data cleaning: Incomplete (missing) data

- Data is not always available
 - E.g. many tuples have no recorded value for several attributes, such as customer income in sales data
- Missing data may be due to
 - equipment malfunction
 - inconsistent with other recorded data and thus deleted
 - data not entered due to misunderstanding
 - certain data may not be considered important at the time of entry
 - not register history or changes of the data
- Missing data may need to be inferred



Data cleaning: How to handle missing data?

- Ignore the tuple: usually done when class label is missing (when doing classification)
 - not effective when the % of missing values per attribute varies considerably
- Fill in the missing value manually: tedious + infeasible?
- Fill in it automatically with
 - a global constant : e.g. "unknown", a new class?!
 - the attribute mean
 - the attribute mean for all samples belonging to the same class: smarter
 - the most probable value: inference-based such as Bayesian formula, decision tree, or matrix factorization



Data cleaning: Noisy data

- Noise: random error or variance in a measured variable
- Incorrect attribute values may be due to
 - faulty data collection instruments
 - data entry problems
 - data transmission problems
 - technology limitation
 - inconsistency in naming convention
- Other data problems which require data cleaning
 - duplicate records
 - incomplete data
 - inconsistent data



Data cleaning: How to handle noisy data?

Binning

- first sort data and partition into (equal-frequency) bins
- then one can smooth by bin means, smooth by bin median, smooth by bin boundaries, etc.

Regression

• smooth by fitting the data into regression functions

Clustering

detect and remove outliers

Combined computer and human inspection

• detect suspicious values and check by human (e.g. deal with possible outliers)

Do nothing

• Noise is also valuable.



Data integration

- Data integration:
 - Combines data from multiple sources into a coherent store
- Schema integration: e.g., A.cust-id \equiv B.cust-#
 - Integrate metadata from different sources
- Entity identification problem:
 - Identify real world entities from multiple data sources, e.g. Bill Clinton = William Clinton
- Detecting and resolving data value conflicts
 - For the same real world entity, attribute values from different sources are different
 - Possible reasons: different representations, different scales, e.g. metric vs. British units



Data integration: Handling redundancy

- Redundant data occur often when integration of multiple databases
 - Object identification: The same attribute or object may have different names in different databases
 - Derivable data: One attribute may be a "derived" attribute in another table, e.g. annual revenue
- Redundant attributes may be able to be detected by correlation analysis and covariance analysis
- Careful integration of the data from multiple sources may help reduce/avoid redundancies and inconsistencies and improve mining speed and quality



Data integration: Correlation analysis (nominal data)

• χ^2 (chi-square) test

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(Observed - Expected)^2}{Expected}$$

- The larger the χ^2 value, the more likely the variables are related
- ullet The cells that contribute the most to the χ^2 value are those whose actual count is very different from the expected count
- Correlation does not imply causality
 - # of hospitals and # of car-theft in a city are correlated
 - Both are causally linked to the third variable: population



Data integration: Chi-square calculation: An example

	Play chess	Not play chess	Sum (row)
Like science fiction	250(90)	200(360)	450
Not like science fiction	50(210)	1000(840)	1050
Sum(col.)	300	1200	1500

• χ^2 (chi-square) calculation (numbers in parenthesis are expected counts calculated based on the data distribution in the two categories)

$$\chi^2 = \frac{(250 - 90)^2}{90} + \frac{(50 - 210)^2}{210} + \frac{(200 - 360)^2}{360} + \frac{(1000 - 840)^2}{840} = 507.93$$

- It shows that like_science_fiction and play_chess are correlated in the group.
- p-value is computed using χ^2 and degree of freedom.



Data integration: Correlation analysis (Numeric data)

Correlation coefficient (also called Pearson's product moment coefficient)

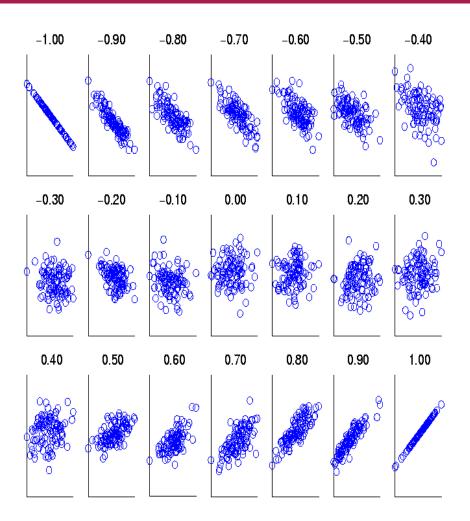
$$r_{A,B} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (a_i - \bar{A})(b_i - \bar{B})}{(n-1)\sigma_a \sigma_b} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (a_i b_i - n\bar{A}\bar{B})}{(n-1)\sigma_a \sigma_b}$$

where n is the number of tuples, \bar{A} and \bar{B} are the respective means of A and B, σ_A and σ_B are the respective standard deviation of A and B, and $\Sigma(a_ib_i)$ is the sum of the AB cross-product.

- If $r_{A,B} > 0$, A and B are positively correlated (A's values increase as B's). The higher, the stronger correlation.
- $\rm r_{A.B}=0$: independent; $\rm r_{AB}<0$: negatively correlated



Data integration: Visually evaluating correlation



Scatter plots showing the similarity from -1 to 1.



Data integration: Correlation (viewed as linear relationship)

- Correlation measures the linear relationship between objects
- To compute correlation, we <u>standardize</u> data objects, A and B, and then take their dot product

$$a'_k = (a_k - \text{mean(A)})/\text{std(A)}$$

$$b'_k = (b_k - mean(B))/std(B)$$

Correlation(A,B) =
$$A' \bullet B'$$



Data integration: Covariance (Numeric data)

Covariance is similar to correlation

$$Cov(A, B) = E((A - \bar{A})(B - \bar{B})) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (a_i - \bar{A})(b_i - \bar{B})}{n}$$

Correlation coefficient: $r_{A,B} = \frac{Cov(A,B)}{\sigma_a \sigma_b}$

- where n is the number of tuples, \bar{A} and \bar{B} are the respective mean or **expected values** of A and B, σ_A and σ_B are the respective standard deviation of A and B.
- Positive covariance: If $\mathrm{Cov}_{\mathrm{A,B}} > 0$, then A and B both tend to be larger than their expected values.
- Negative covariance: If $Cov_{A,B} < 0$ then if A is larger than its expected value, B is likely to be smaller than its expected value.



Data integration: Co-variance: An example

$$Cov(A, B) = E((A - \bar{A})(B - \bar{B})) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (a_i - A)(b_i - B)}{n}$$

• It can be simplified in computation as

$$Cov(A, B) = E(A \cdot B) - \bar{A}\bar{B}$$

- Suppose two stocks A and B have the following values in one week: (2, 5), (3, 8), (5, 10), (4, 11), (6, 14).
- Question: If the stocks are affected by the same industry trends, will their prices rise or fall together?
 - E(A) = (2 + 3 + 5 + 4 + 6)/5 = 20/5 = 4
 - E(B) = (5 + 8 + 10 + 11 + 14) / 5 = 48 / 5 = 9.6
 - $Cov(A,B) = (2 \times 5 + 3 \times 8 + 5 \times 10 + 4 \times 11 + 6 \times 14)/5 4 \times 9.6 = 4$
- Thus, A and B rise together since Cov(A, B) > 0.



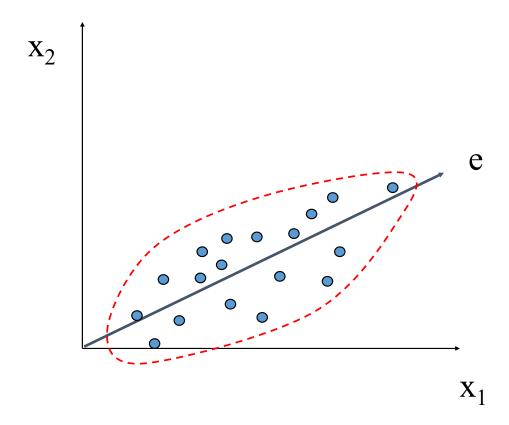
Data reduction: Strategies

- Data reduction: Obtain a reduced representation of the data set that is much smaller in volume but yet produces almost the same (or better) analytical results
- Why data reduction?
 - to reduce running time or to improve the (clustering or classification) accuracy
- Data reduction strategies
 - Dimensionality reduction, e.g. remove unimportant attributes
 - Feature transformation: Principal Components Analysis (PCA), ...
 - Feature subset selection: (1) Wrapper method, (2) Filter method
 - Numerosity reduction (sampling)
 - Data compression



Data reduction: Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

- Find a projection that captures the largest amount of variation in data
- The original data are projected onto a much smaller space, resulting in dimensionality reduction. We find the eigenvectors of the covariance matrix, and these eigenvectors define the new space





Data reduction: Principal Component Analysis (steps)

- Given N data vectors from n-dimensions, find $k \le n$ orthogonal vectors (principal components) that can be best used to represent data
 - Normalize input data: Each attribute falls within the same range
 - Compute k orthonormal (unit) vectors, i.e. principal components
 - Each input data (vector) is a linear combination of the k principal component vectors
 - The principal components are sorted in order of decreasing "significance" or strength
 - Since the components are sorted, the size of the data can be reduced by eliminating the *weak* components, i.e. those with low variance (i.e. using the strongest principal components, it is possible to reconstruct a good approximation of the original data)
- Works for numeric data only



Data reduction: Attribute subset selection

- Another way to reduce dimensionality of data
- Redundant attributes
 - Duplicate much or all of the information contained in one or more other attributes
 - e.g. purchase price of a product and the amount of sales tax paid
- Irrelevant attributes
 - Contain no information that is useful for the data mining task at hand
 - e.g. students' ID is often irrelevant to the task of predicting students' GPA



Data reduction: Heuristic search in attribute selection

- There are 2^d possible attribute combinations of d attributes
- Typical heuristic attribute selection methods:
 - 1. Select attributes under the attribute independence assumption: choose by significance tests
 - 2. Step-wise attribute selection (forward):
 - The best single-attribute is picked first
 - Then next best attribute condition to the first, ...
 - 3. Step-wise attribute elimination (backward):
 - Repeatedly eliminate the worst attribute
 - 4. Combined attribute selection and elimination



Data reduction: Attribute subset selection

- 1. Wrapper method (Scheme-dependent)
 - User learning method to select attributes (use heuristic search)
 - Slower than filter method
 - e.g. RFE (Recursive Feature Elimination) with SVM
- 2. Filter method (Scheme-independent)
 - Select attributes before learning
 - 1. Use a single-attribute evaluator, with ranking
 - Can eliminate irrelevant attributes
 - Combine an attribute subset evaluator with a heuristic search method
 - Can eliminate <u>irrelevant</u> and <u>redundant</u> attributes as well
 - A subset of attributes is good if they are highly correlated with the class attribute and not strongly correlated with one another

• Goodness of an attribute subset =
$$\frac{\sum_{all\ attributes\ x} Corr(x,class)}{\sqrt{\sum_{all\ attributes\ x} \sum_{all\ attributes\ y} Corr(x,y)}}$$

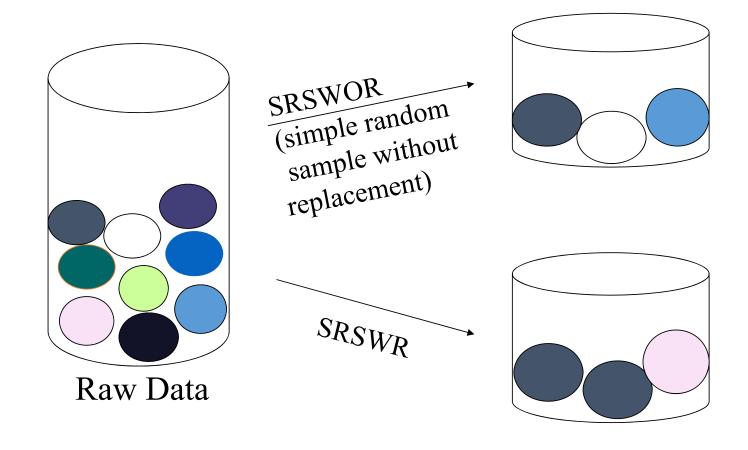


Data reduction: Sampling

- Sampling: select a *representative* subset of data
- Type of Sampling
 - Simple random sampling
 - There is an equal probability of selecting any particular item
 - Sampling without replacement
 - Once an object is selected, it is removed from the population
 - Sampling with replacement
 - A selected object is not removed from the population
 - Stratified sampling:
 - Partition the data set, and draw samples from each partition (proportionally, i.e. approximately the same percentage of the data)
 - Used in conjunction with skewed data



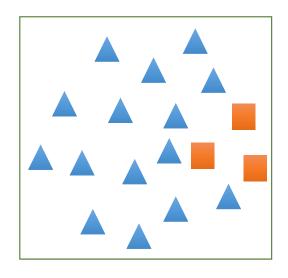
Data reduction: Sampling with or without replacement





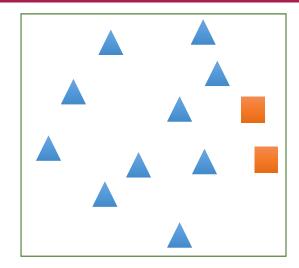
Data reduction: Random sampling vs. Stratified sampling

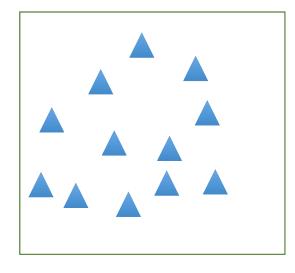
Raw data



Stratified sample

Random sample







Data transformation

- Transform the entire set of values of a given attribute to a new set of replacement
- Normalization: Scaled to fall within a smaller, specified range
 - min-max normalization
 - z-score normalization
 - normalization by decimal scaling
- Discretization



Data transformation: Normalization

• Min-max normalization: to [new_minA, new_maxA]

$$v' = \frac{v - min_A}{max_A - min_A} (new_max_A - new_min_A) + new_min_A$$

e.g. Let income range \$12,000 to \$98,000 normalized to [0.0, 1.0].

Then \$73,000 is mapped to
$$\frac{73,600-12.000}{98,000-12,000}$$
 $(1.0 - 0) + 0 = 0.716$

• **Z-score normalization** (μ : mean, σ : standard deviation):

$$v' = \frac{v - \mu_A}{\sigma_A}$$

e.g. Let
$$\mu = 54,000$$
, $\sigma = 16,000$. Then $\frac{73,600-54,000}{16,000} = 1.225$

Normalization by decimal scaling

$$v' = \frac{v}{10^j}$$
 Where j is the smallest integer such that $Max(|v'|) < 1$



Data transformation: Discretization

- Three types of attributes
 - Nominal—values from an unordered set, e.g. color, profession
 - Ordinal—values from an ordered set, e.g. military or academic rank
 - Numeric—real numbers, e.g. integer or real numbers
- Discretization: Divide the range of a continuous attribute into intervals
 - Prepare for further analysis, e.g. classification
 - Interval labels can then be used to replace actual data values
 - Supervised vs. unsupervised



Data transformation: Simple discretization: Binning

- Equal-width (distance) partitioning
 - Divides the range into N intervals of equal size: uniform grid
 - if A and B are the lowest and highest values of the attribute, the width of intervals will be: W = (B A)/N.
 - The most straightforward, but outliers may dominate presentation
 - Skewed data is not handled well
- Equal-depth (frequency) partitioning
 - Divides the range into N intervals, each containing approximately same number of samples
 - Good data scaling
 - Managing categorical attributes can be tricky



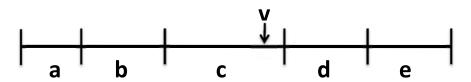
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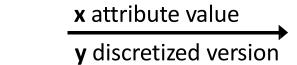
e.g. 4, 8, 9, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 34

- Equal-width (distance) partitioning
 - Bin 1: 4, 8, 9
 - Bin 2: 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24
 - Bin 3: 29, 34
- Equal-depth (frequency) partitioning
 - Bin 1: 4, 8, 9, 15
 - Bin 2: 16, 19, 21, 22
 - Bin 3: 23, 24, 29, 34



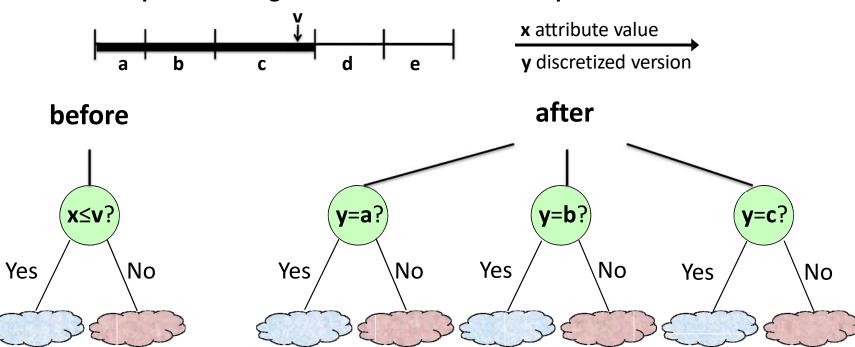
How to exploit ordering information? – what's the problem?







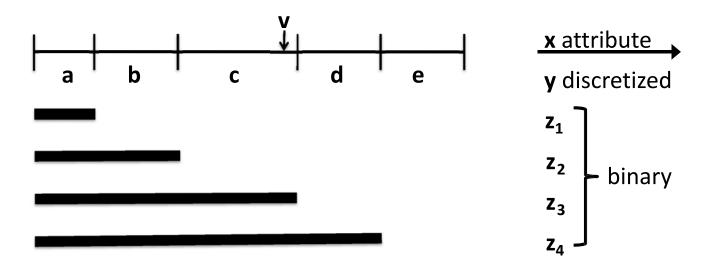
How to exploit ordering information? – what's the problem?





How to exploit ordering information? – a solution

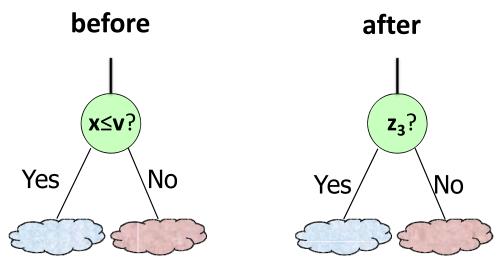
- Transform a discretized attribute with k values into k-1 binary attributes
- If the original attribute's value is i for a particular instance, set the first *i-1* binary attributes to *false* and the remainder to *true*





How to exploit ordering information? – a solution

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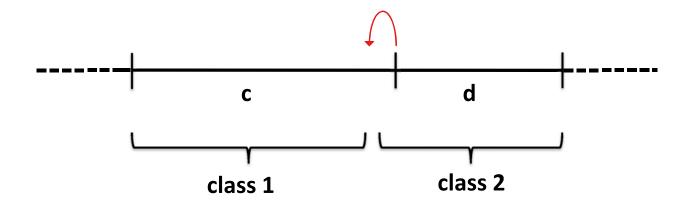




Data transformation: Supervised discretization

Transforming numeric attributes to nominal

• What if all instances in a bin have one class, and all instances in the next higher bin have another class except for the first, which has the original class?



• Take the class values into account – supervised discretization



Data transformation: Supervised discretization

Transforming numeric attributes to nominal

- Use the entropy heuristic (pioneered by C4.5 J48 in Weka)
- e.g. temperature attribute of weather.numeric.arff dataset

64 65 68 69 70 71 72 75 80 81 83 85 yes no yes yes yes no yes yes no yes yes
$$\frac{4 \text{ yes, 1 no}}{\text{entropy}} = 0.934 \text{ bits}$$
 amount of information required to specify the individual values of yes and no given the split

- Choose split point with smallest entropy (largest information gain)
- Repeat recursively until some stopping criterion is met



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