



华东师范大学计算机科学与技术学院
School of Computer Science and Technology

数据分析实践

第3课. 数据预处理

兰 曼

计算机科学与技术学院

华东师范大学

1

Why Preprocess the Data ?

2

Data Cleaning

3

Data Integration

4

Data Reduction

5

Data Transformation and Data Discretization

1 Why Data Preprocessing ?



- **Data in the real world is dirty**
 - **incomplete:** lacking attribute values, lacking certain attributes of interest, or containing only aggregate data
 - e.g., occupation=""
 - **noisy:** containing errors or outliers
 - e.g., Salary="-10"
 - **inconsistent:** containing discrepancies in codes or names
 - e.g., Age="42" Birthday="03/07/1997"
 - e.g., Was rating "1,2,3", now rating "A, B, C"
 - e.g., discrepancy between duplicate records
 - **Intentional** (e.g., *disguised missing data*)
 - Jan. 1 as everyone's birthday?

Why Is Data Dirty ?

- **Incomplete** data may come from
 - “Not applicable” data value when collected
 - Different considerations between the time when the data was collected and when it is analyzed.
 - Human/hardware/software problems
- **Noisy** data (incorrect values) may come from
 - Faulty data collection instruments
 - Human or computer error at data entry
 - Errors in data transmission
- **Inconsistent** data may come from
 - Different data sources
 - Functional dependency violation (e.g., modify some linked data)
- **Duplicate** records also need data cleaning

Why Is Data Preprocessing Important ?



- No quality data, no quality mining results!
- **Data extraction, cleaning, and transformation** comprises the majority of the work of building a data warehouse

➤ Measures for data quality: A multidimensional view

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

➤ Data cleaning

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

➤ Data integration

- Integration of multiple databases, data cubes, or files

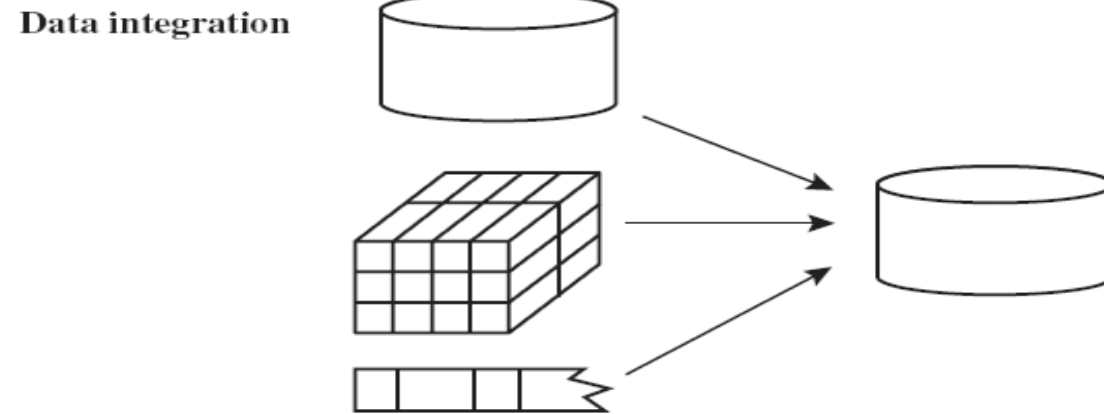
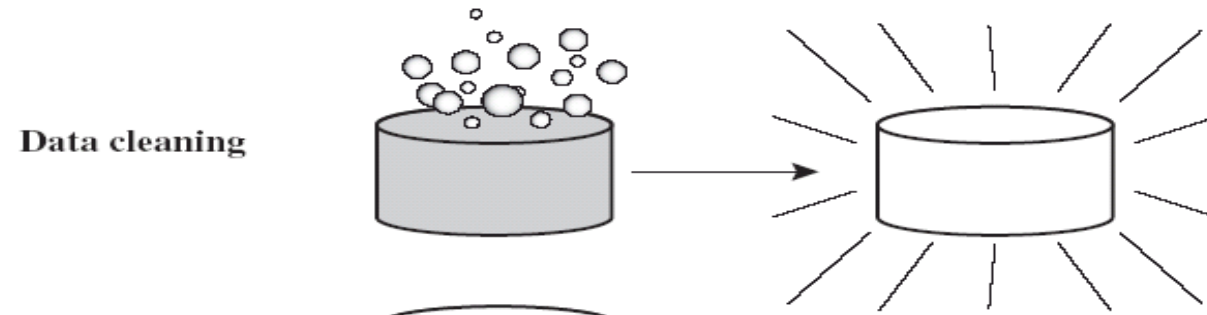
➤ Data reduction

- Dimensionality reduction
- Numerosity reduction
- Data compression

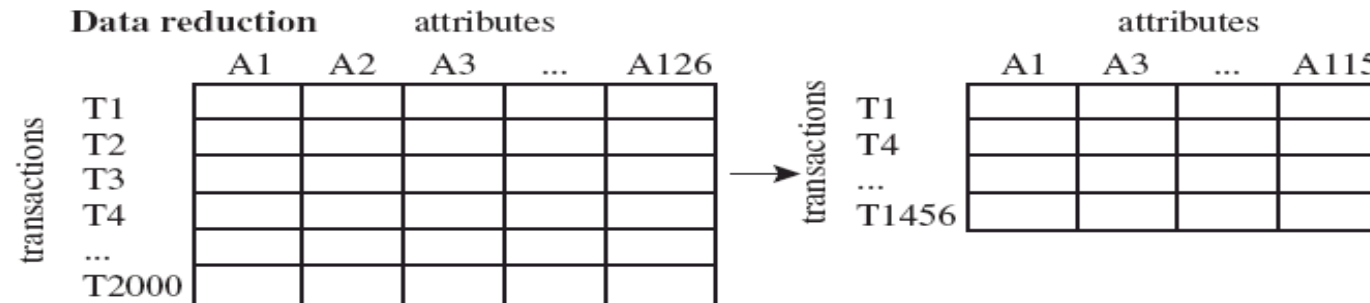
➤ Data transformation and data discretization

- Normalization
- Concept hierarchy generation

Forms of Data Preprocessing



Data transformation $-2, 32, 100, 59, 48 \longrightarrow -0.02, 0.32, 1.00, 0.59, 0.48$



- data in the real world is dirty: lots of potentially incorrect data, e.g., instrument faulty, human or computer error, transmission error
 - **incomplete**: lacking attribute values, lacking certain attributes of interest, or containing only aggregate data
 - e.g., *Occupation* = “ ” (missing data)
 - **noisy**: containing noise, errors, or outliers
 - e.g., *Salary* = “-10” (an error)
 - **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”
 - **Intentional** (e.g., *disguised missing data*)
 - Jan. 1 as everyone’s birthday?

How to Handle Missing Data ?



- Data is not always available, missing data may need to be **inferred**.
- **Ignore the tuple:** usually done when class label is missing (assuming the tasks in classification)—not effective when the percentage 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** or **decision tree**

How to Handle Noisy Data ?



- **Noise:** random error or variance in a measured variable
- **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)

➤ Data discrepancy detection

- Use metadata (e.g., domain, range, dependency, distribution)
- Check field overloading
- Check uniqueness rule, consecutive rule and null rule
- Use commercial tools
 - Data scrubbing: use simple domain knowledge (e.g., postal code, spell-check) to detect errors and make corrections
 - Data auditing: by analyzing data to discover rules and relationship to detect violators (e.g., correlation and clustering to find outliers)

➤ Data migration and integration

- Data migration tools: allow transformations to be specified
- ETL (Extraction/Transformation/Loading) tools: allow users to specify transformations through a graphical user interface

➤ Integration of the two processes

- Iterative and interactive (e.g., Potter's Wheels)

3 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

- 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

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

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

$$b'_k = (b_k - \text{mean}(B)) / \text{std}(B)$$

$$\text{correlation}(A, B) = A' \bullet B'$$

➤ χ^2 (chi-square) test

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

- The larger the χ^2 value, the more likely the variables are related
- 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

Chi-Square Calculation: An Example

2*2 Contingency table

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

➤ **Expected = count(A=a_i) * count(B=b_j) / N**

➤ **X² (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**

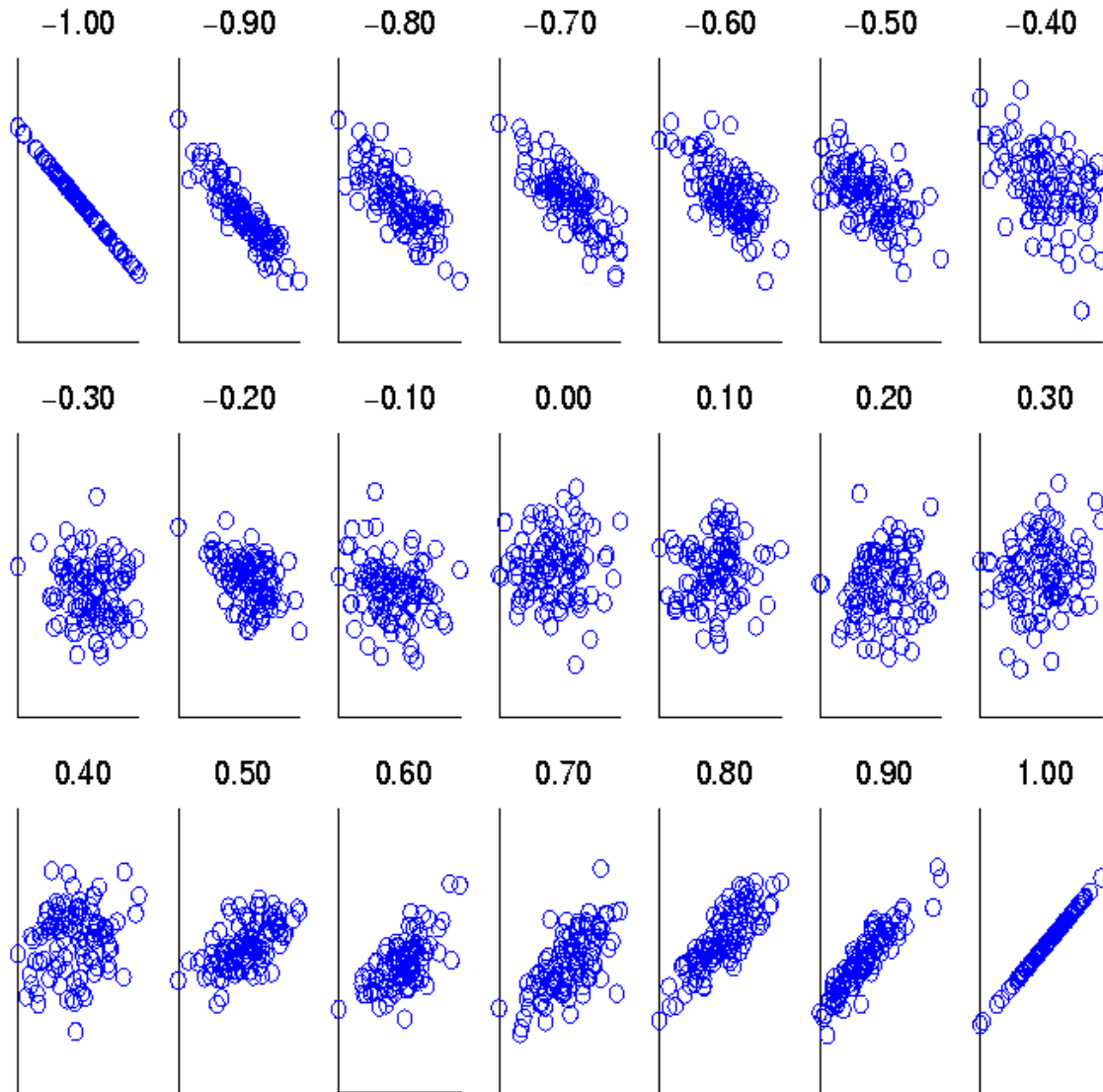
➤ **Correlation coefficient** (also called Pearson's product moment coefficient)

$$r_{A,B} = \frac{\sum (A - \bar{A})(B - \bar{B})}{(n-1)\sigma_A \sigma_B} = \frac{\sum (AB) - n\bar{A}\bar{B}}{(n-1)\sigma_A \sigma_B}$$

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 $\sum(AB)$ is the sum of the AB cross-product. $-1 \leq r_{A,B} \leq +1$

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

Visually Evaluating Correlation



Scatter plots showing the similarity from -1 to 1 .

- **Data reduction** : Obtain a reduced representation of the data set that is much smaller in volume (thus more efficient) but yet produce the same (or almost the same) analytical results
- **Why data reduction?** -- A database/data warehouse may store terabytes of data. Complex data analysis/mining may take a very long time to run on the complete data set.
- **Data reduction strategies**
 - Dimensionality reduction, e.g., remove unimportant features (attributes)
 - Feature (Attribute) subset selection, feature creation
 - Principal Components Analysis (PCA)
 - Wavelet transforms
 - Numerosity reduction (some simply call it: Data Reduction)
 - Regression and Log-Linear Models
 - Histograms, clustering, sampling
 - Data cube aggregation
 - Data compression

➤ Curse of dimensionality

- When dimensionality increases, data becomes increasingly sparse
- Density and distance between points, which is critical to clustering, outlier analysis, becomes less meaningful
- The possible combinations of subspaces will grow exponentially

➤ Dimensionality reduction

- Avoid the curse of dimensionality
- Help eliminate irrelevant features and reduce noise
- Reduce time and space required in data mining
- Allow easier visualization

➤ Dimensionality reduction techniques

- Supervised and nonlinear techniques (e.g., feature selection)
- Principal Component Analysis
- Wavelet transforms

(A) Attribute Subset Selection (i.e. Feature selection)



➤ Reduce the data set size by **removing irrelevant or redundant attributes** (or dimensions).

➤ **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

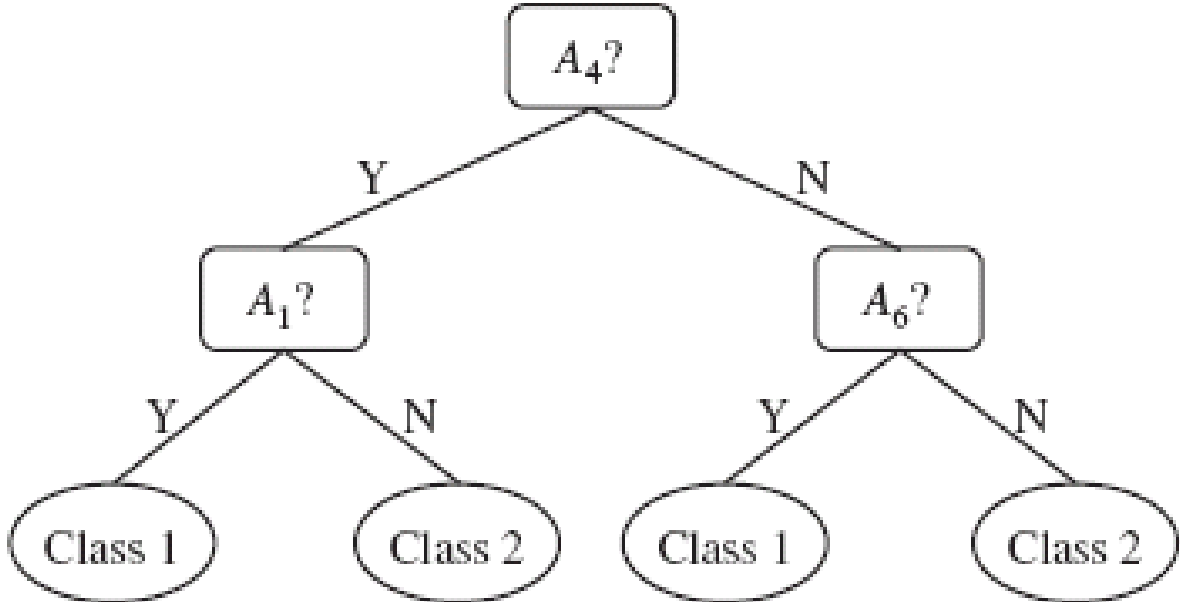
➤ **Irrelevant attributes**

- 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

- **How can we find a ‘good’ subset of the original attributes?**
 - For n attributes, there are 2^n possible subsets.
- **Heuristic methods** (due to exponential # of choices):
 - Best single features under the feature independence assumption: choose by significance tests
 - Step-wise forward selection
 - The best single-feature is picked first
 - Then next best feature condition to the first, ...
 - Step-wise backward elimination
 - Repeatedly eliminate the worst feature
 - Best combined forward selection and backward elimination
 - Optimal branch and bound:
 - Use attribute elimination and backtracking

| Function | Denoted by | Mathematical form |
|------------------------|--------------------|--|
| DIA association factor | $z(t_k, c_i)$ | $P(c_i t_k)$ |
| Information gain | $IG(t_k, c_i)$ | $\sum_{c \in \{c_i, \bar{c}_i\}} \sum_{t \in \{t_k, \bar{t}_k\}} P(t, c) \cdot \log \frac{P(t, c)}{P(t) \cdot P(c)}$ |
| Mutual information | $MI(t_k, c_i)$ | $\log \frac{P(t_k, c_i)}{P(t_k) \cdot P(c_i)}$ |
| Chi-square | $\chi^2(t_k, c_i)$ | $\frac{ Tr \cdot [P(t_k, c_i) \cdot P(\bar{t}_k, \bar{c}_i) - P(t_k, \bar{c}_i) \cdot P(\bar{t}_k, c_i)]^2}{P(t_k) \cdot P(\bar{t}_k) \cdot P(c_i) \cdot P(\bar{c}_i)}$ |
| NGL coefficient | $NGL(t_k, c_i)$ | $\frac{\sqrt{ Tr } \cdot [P(t_k, c_i) \cdot P(\bar{t}_k, \bar{c}_i) - P(t_k, \bar{c}_i) \cdot P(\bar{t}_k, c_i)]}{\sqrt{P(t_k) \cdot P(\bar{t}_k) \cdot P(c_i) \cdot P(\bar{c}_i)}}$ |
| Relevancy score | $RS(t_k, c_i)$ | $\log \frac{P(t_k c_i) + d}{P(\bar{t}_k \bar{c}_i) + d}$ |
| Odds ratio | $OR(t_k, c_i)$ | $\frac{P(t_k c_i) \cdot (1 - P(t_k \bar{c}_i))}{(1 - P(t_k c_i)) \cdot P(t_k \bar{c}_i)}$ |
| GSS coefficient | $GSS(t_k, c_i)$ | $P(t_k, c_i) \cdot P(\bar{t}_k, \bar{c}_i) - P(t_k, \bar{c}_i) \cdot P(\bar{t}_k, c_i)$ |

Heuristic methods for feature selection

| Forward selection | Backward elimination | Decision tree induction |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Initial attribute set: $\{A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, A_6\}$</p> <p>Initial reduced set: $\{\}$</p> <p>$\Rightarrow \{A_1\}$</p> <p>$\Rightarrow \{A_1, A_4\}$</p> <p>\Rightarrow Reduced attribute set: $\{A_1, A_4, A_6\}$</p> | <p>Initial attribute set: $\{A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, A_6\}$</p> <p>$\Rightarrow \{A_1, A_3, A_4, A_5, A_6\}$</p> <p>$\Rightarrow \{A_1, A_4, A_5, A_6\}$</p> <p>$\Rightarrow$ Reduced attribute set: $\{A_1, A_4, A_6\}$</p> | <p>Initial attribute set: $\{A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, A_6\}$</p>  <pre>graph TD; A4["A4?"] -- Y --> A1["A1?"]; A4 -- N --> A6["A6?"]; A1 -- Y --> C1_1((Class 1)); A1 -- N --> C2_1((Class 2)); A6 -- Y --> C1_2((Class 1)); A6 -- N --> C2_2((Class 2));</pre> <p>\Rightarrow Reduced attribute set: $\{A_1, A_4, A_6\}$</p> |

- **Create new attributes (features) that can capture the important information in a data set more effectively than the original ones**
- **Three general methodologies**
 - **Attribute extraction**
 - **Domain-specific**
 - **Mapping data to new space (see: data reduction)**
 - **E.g., Fourier transformation, wavelet transformation, manifold approaches (not covered)**
 - **Attribute construction**
 - **Combining features (see: discriminative frequent patterns in Chapter on “Advanced Classification”)**
 - **Data discretization**

- Reduce data volume by choosing **alternative, smaller** forms of data representation
- **Parametric methods** (e.g., regression)
 - Assume the data fits some **model**, estimate model parameters, **store only the parameters**, and discard the data (except possible outliers)
 - Example: Log-linear models — obtain value at a point in m-D space as the product on appropriate marginal subspaces
- **Non-parametric methods**
 - Do not assume models
 - Major families: histograms, clustering, sampling

➤ **Linear regression:** $Y = w X + b$ (w : slope, b : Y-intercept)

- Data modeled to fit a straight line
- Two regression coefficients, w and b , specify the parameters of model
- Often uses the least squares criterion to fit the line based on the known values of

$Y_1, Y_2, \dots, X_1, X_2, \dots$

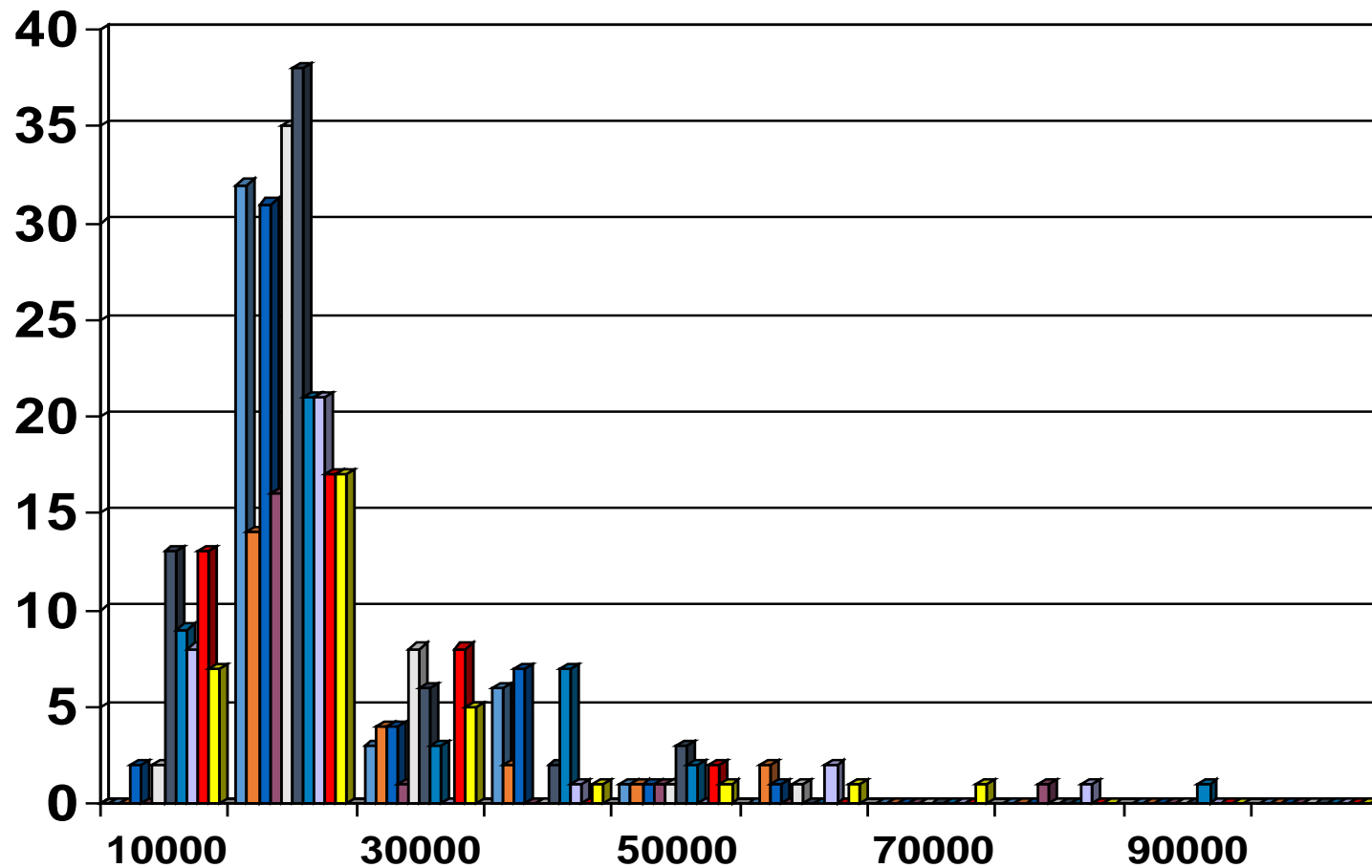
➤ **Multiple regression:** $Y = b_0 + b_1 X_1 + b_2 X_2$.

- allows a response variable Y to be modeled as a linear function of multidimensional feature vector
- Many nonlinear functions can be transformed into the above

➤ **Log-linear model:**

- approximates discrete multidimensional probability distributions
- Estimate the probability of each point (tuple) in a multi-dimensional space for a set of discretized attributes, based on a smaller subset of dimensional combinations
- Useful for dimensionality reduction and data smoothing

➤ Divide data into buckets and store average (sum) for each bucket



➤ Partitioning rules:

- Equal-width: equal bucket range
- Equal-frequency (or equal-depth)

- Partition data set into **clusters** based on similarity, and store cluster representation (e.g., centroid and diameter) only
- Can be very effective if data is clustered but not if data is “**smeared**”
- Can have **hierarchical clustering** and be stored in **multi-dimensional index tree structures**
- There are many choices of clustering definitions and clustering algorithms
- Cluster analysis will be studied in depth later

- **Sampling:** obtaining a **small sample s** to represent the whole dataset **N**
- Allow a mining algorithm to run in complexity that is potentially sub-linear to the size of the data
- **Key principle:** Choose a **representative** subset of the data
 - Simple random sampling may have very poor performance in the presence of skew
 - Develop adaptive sampling methods, e.g., stratified sampling
- **Note:** Sampling may not reduce database I/Os (page at a time)

➤ 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

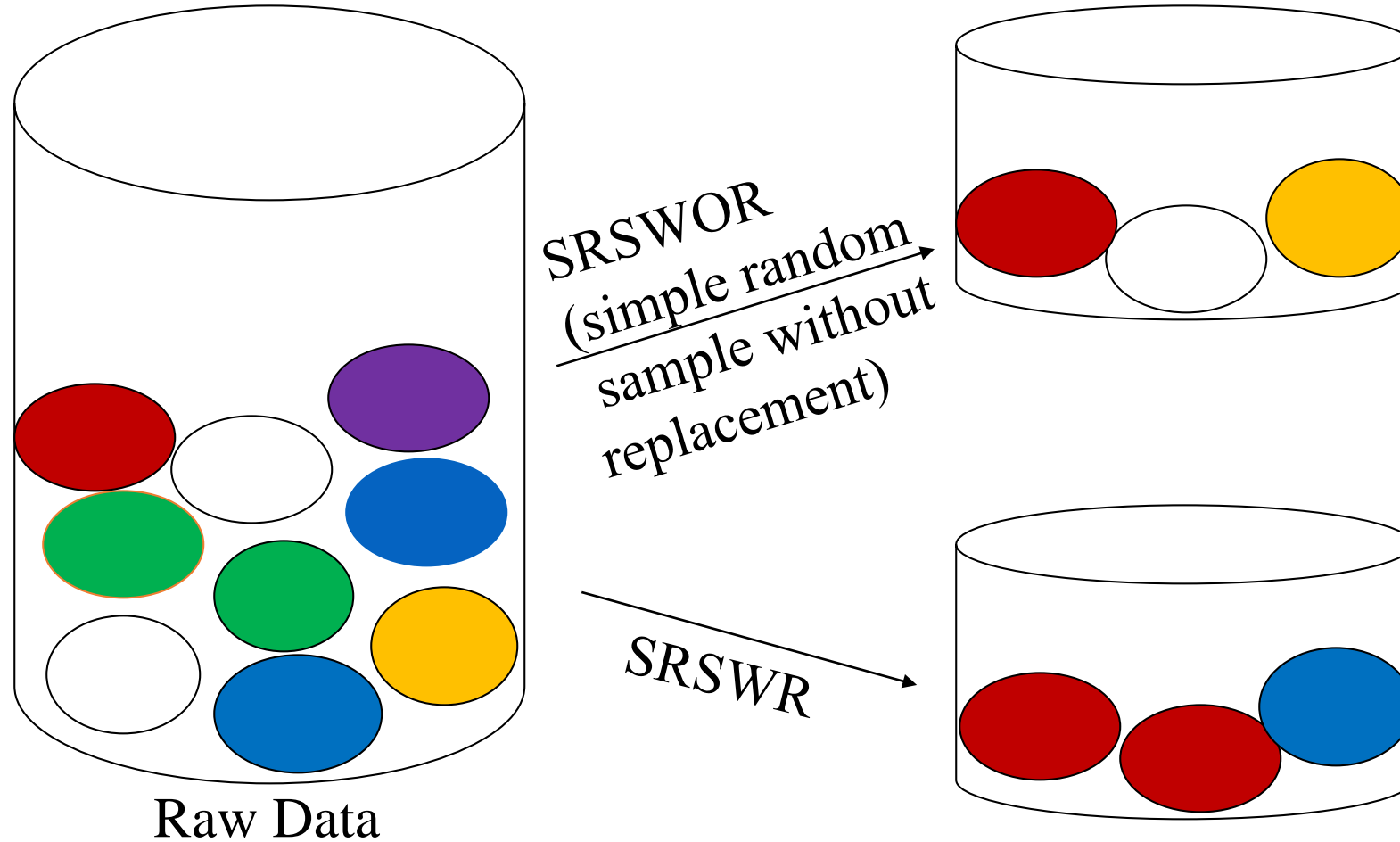
➤ Cluster sampling

- Group data into clusters and draw samples from each cluster

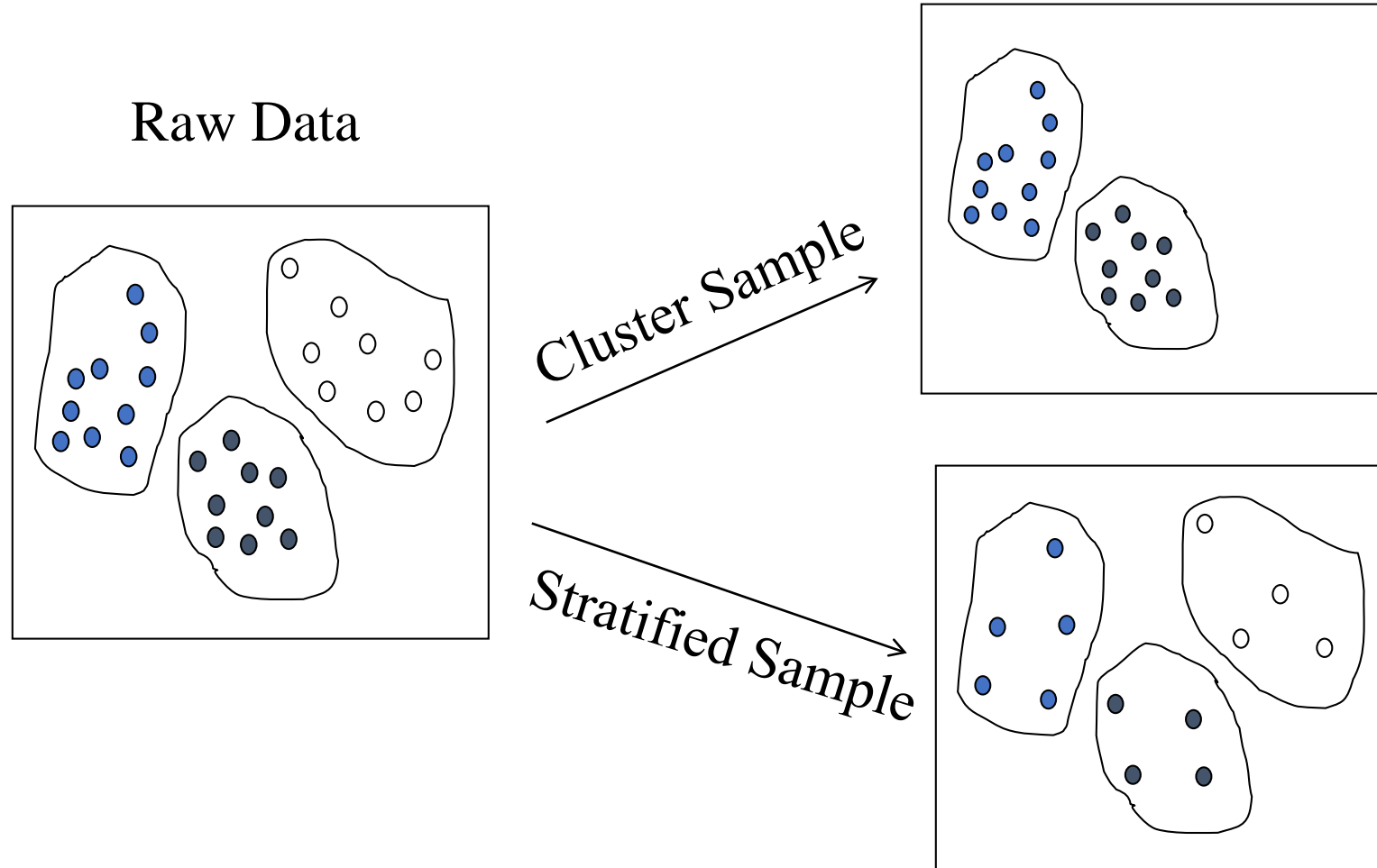
➤ Stratified sampling

- 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

Sampling: with or without Replacement



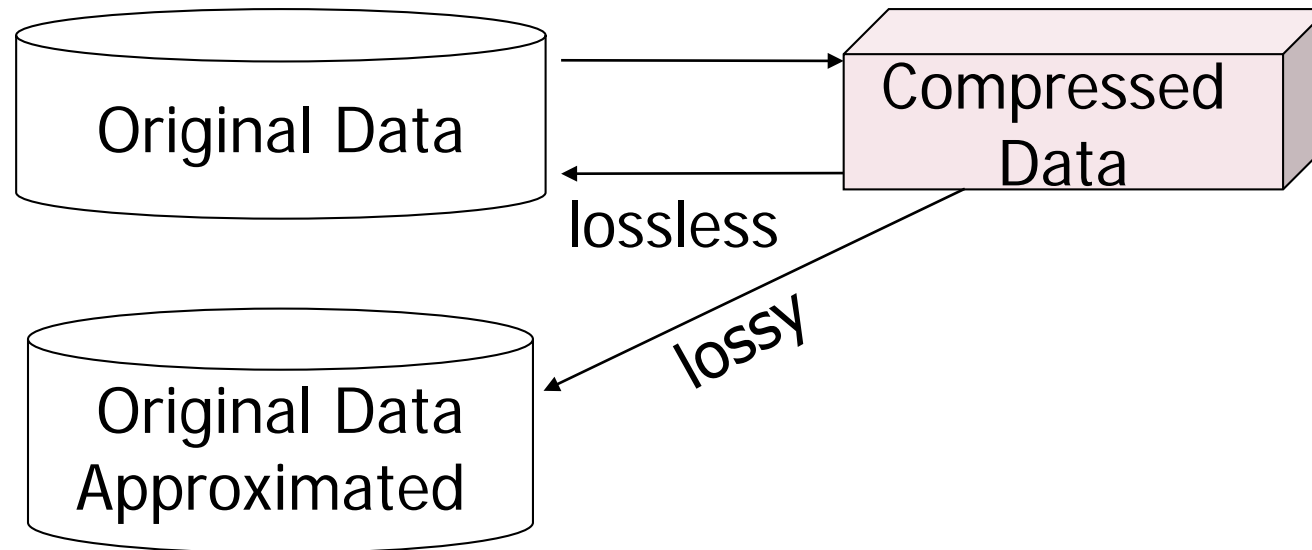
Sampling: Cluster or Stratified Sampling



Data Reduction 3: Data Compression

➤ Data encoding or transformations are applied so as to obtain a reduced or “compressed” representation of the original data.

- **Lossless:** If the original data can be reconstructed from the compressed data without any loss of information.
- **Lossy:** we can reconstruct only an approximation of the original data.



➤ String compression

- There are extensive theories and well-tuned algorithms
- Typically **lossless**
- But only limited manipulation is possible without expansion

➤ Audio/video compression

- Typically **lossy** compression, with progressive refinement
- Sometimes small fragments of signal can be reconstructed without reconstructing the whole

➤ Time sequence is not audio

- Typically short and vary slowly with time

➤ Dimensionality and numerosity reduction may also be considered as forms of data compression



➤ Data Transformation

- A function that maps the entire set of values of a given attribute to a new set of replacement values s.t. each old value can be identified with one of the new values.
- **Smoothing:** Remove noise from data
- **Attribute/feature construction**
 - New attributes constructed from the given ones
- **Aggregation:** Summarization, data cube construction
- **Normalization:** scaled to fall within a small, specified range
 - min-max normalization
 - z-score normalization
 - normalization by decimal scaling
- **Discretization:** concept hierarchy climbing

➤ **Min-max normalization:** to $[\text{new_min}_A, \text{new_max}_A]$

$$v' = \frac{v - \text{min}_A}{\text{max}_A - \text{min}_A} (\text{new_max}_A - \text{new_min}_A) + \text{new_min}_A$$

○ **Ex.** 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 (zero-mean)** $v' = \frac{v - \mu_A}{\sigma_A}$

(μ : mean, σ : standard deviation):

• **Ex.** Let $\mu = 54,000$, $\sigma = 16,000$. Then $\frac{73,600 - 54,000}{16,000} = 1.225$

➤ **Normalization by decimal scaling**

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

➤ 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

- Interval labels can then be used to replace actual data values
- Reduce data size by discretization
- Supervised vs. unsupervised
- Split (top-down) vs. merge (bottom-up)
- Discretization can be performed recursively on an attribute
- Prepare for further analysis, e.g., classification

➤ **Typical methods:** All the methods can be applied recursively

➤ **Binning**

- Top-down split, unsupervised

➤ **Histogram analysis**

- Top-down split, unsupervised

➤ **Clustering analysis** (unsupervised, top-down split or bottom-up merge)

➤ **Decision-tree analysis** (supervised, top-down split)

➤ **Correlation (e.g., χ^2) analysis** (unsupervised, bottom-up merge)

➤ **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 (equal number)
- Good data scaling
- Managing categorical attributes can be tricky

➤ Step1: Sort & Partition

* Sorted data for *price* (in dollars): 4, 8, 9, 15, 21, 21, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 34

* Partition into **equal-frequency**

(equal-depth) bins:

4 data per bin

- Bin 1: 4, 8, 9, 15
- Bin 2: 21, 21, 24, 25
- Bin 3: 26, 28, 29, 34

➤ Step 2: Smooth

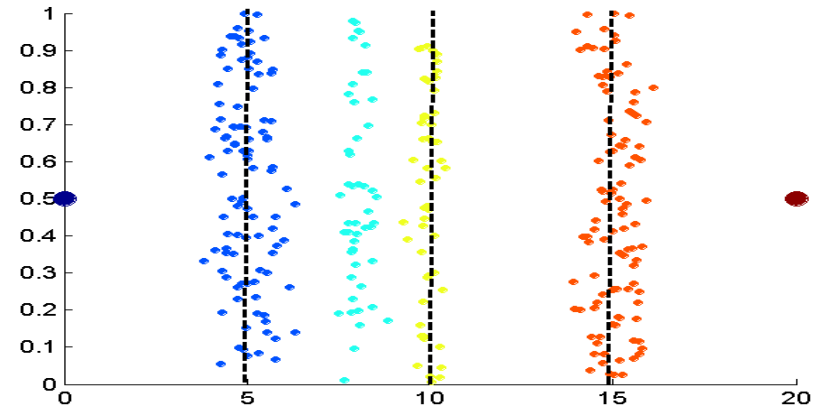
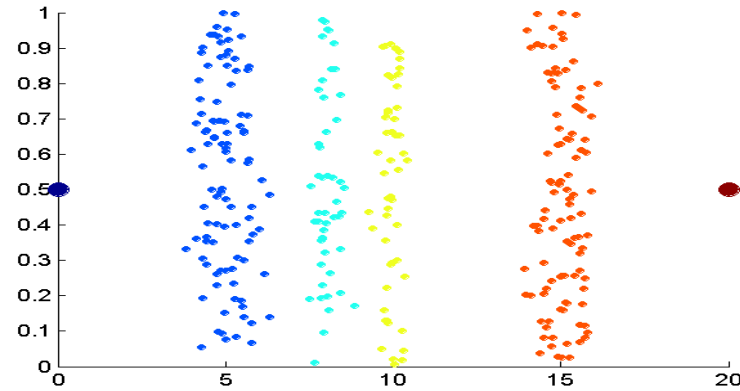
* Smoothing by bin **means:**

- Bin 1: 9, 9, 9, 9
- Bin 2: 23, 23, 23, 23
- Bin 3: 29, 29, 29, 29

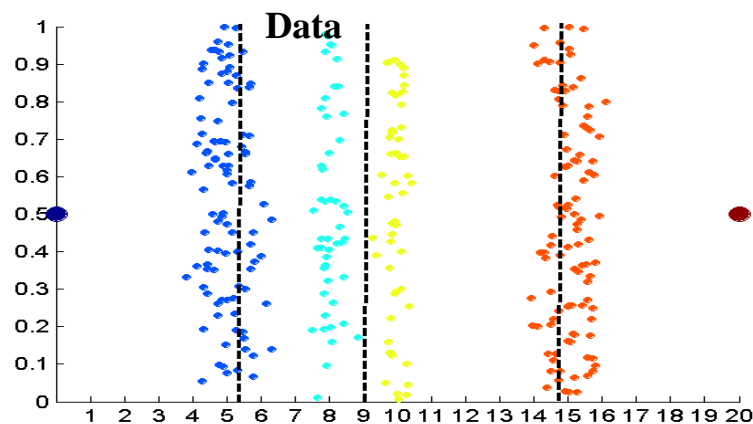
* Smoothing by bin **boundaries:**

- Bin 1: 4, 4, 4, 15
- Bin 2: 21, 21, 25, 25
- Bin 3: 26, 26, 26, 34

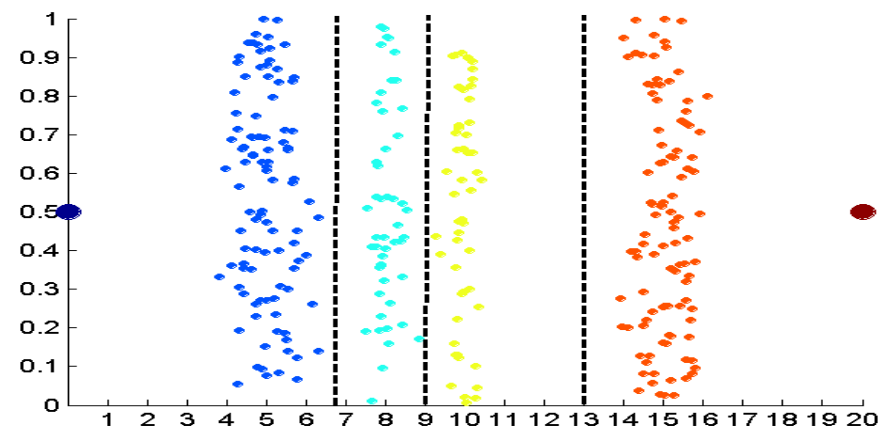
➤ (Binning vs. Clustering)



Equal width (binning)



Equal frequency (binning)



K-means clustering leads to better results

- **Concept hierarchy** organizes concepts (i.e., attribute values) hierarchically and is usually associated with each dimension in a data warehouse
- Concept hierarchies facilitate **drilling and rolling** in data warehouses to view data in multiple granularity
- Concept hierarchy formation: Recursively reduce the data by collecting and replacing low level concepts (such as numeric values for *age*) by higher level concepts (such as *youth, adult, or senior*)
- Concept hierarchies can be explicitly specified by domain experts and/or data warehouse designers
- Concept hierarchy can be automatically formed for both numeric and nominal data—For numeric data, use discretization methods shown

- Specification of a partial/total ordering of attributes explicitly at the schema level by users or experts
 - $street < city < state < country$
- Specification of a hierarchy for a set of values by explicit data grouping
 - $\{Urbana, Champaign, Chicago\} < Illinois$
- Specification of only a partial set of attributes
 - E.g., only $street < city$, not others
- Automatic generation of hierarchies (or attribute levels) by the analysis of the number of distinct values
 - E.g., for a set of attributes: $\{street, city, state, country\}$

- Some hierarchies can be automatically generated based on the analysis of the number of distinct values per attribute in the data set
- The attribute with the most distinct values is placed at the lowest level of the hierarchy
 - Exceptions, e.g., *weekday*, *month*, *quarter*, *year*

