

Unit 1:Data Pre-processing

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Introduction

- Today's real-world databases are highly susceptible to noisy, missing, and inconsistent data due to their typically huge size (often several gigabytes or more) and their likely origin from multiple, heterogenous sources.
- Low-quality data will lead to low-quality analysis results.
- "How can the data be preprocessed in order to help improve the quality of the data and, consequently, of the analysis results?
- How can the data be preprocessed so as to improve the efficiency and ease of the analysis process?"



Important Characteristics of Data

- Dimensionality (number of attributes)
 - High dimensional data brings a number of challenges
- Sparsity
 - Only presence counts
- Resolution
 - Patterns depend on the scale
- Size
 - Type of analysis may depend on size of data



Data Quality: Why Preprocess the Data?

- 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 Quality

- Poor data quality negatively affects many data processing efforts
- "The most important point is that poor data quality is an unfolding disaster.
 - Poor data quality costs the typical company at least ten percent (10%) of revenue; twenty percent (20%) is probably a better estimate."

Thomas C. Redman, DM Review, August 2004

- example: a classification model for detecting people who are loan risks is built using poor data
 - Some credit-worthy candidates are denied loans
 - More loans are given to individuals that default



Data Quality

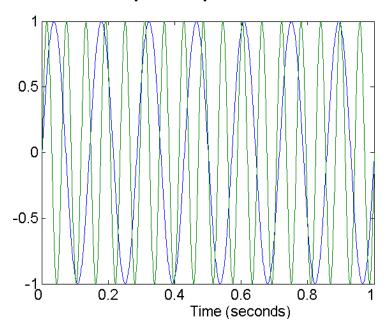
- What kinds of data quality problems?
- How can we detect problems with the data?
- What can we do about these problems?

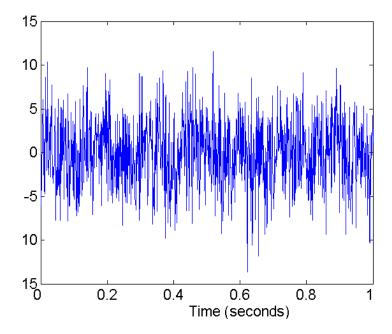
- Examples of data quality problems:
 - Noise and outliers
 - Missing values
 - Duplicate data
 - Wrong data
 - Fake data



Noise

- For objects, noise is an extraneous object
- For attributes, noise refers to modification of original values
 - Examples: distortion of a person's voice when talking on a poor phone and "snow" on television screen





Two Sine Waves

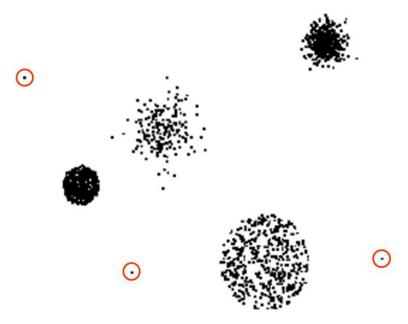
Two Sine Waves + Noise



Outliers

- Outliers are data objects with characteristics that are considerably different than most of the other data objects in the data set
 - Case 1: Outliers are noise that interferes with data analysis
 - Case 2: Outliers are the goal of our analysis
 - Credit card fraud
 - Intrusion detection





Missing Values

- Reasons for missing values
 - Information is not collected
 (e.g., people decline to give their age and weight)
 - Attributes may not be applicable to all cases (e.g., annual income is not applicable to children)
- Handling missing values
 - Eliminate data objects or variables
 - Estimate missing values
 - Example: time series of temperature
 - Example: census results
 - Ignore the missing value during analysis



Missing Values ...

- Missing completely at random (MCAR)
 - Missingness of a value is independent of attributes
 - Fill in values based on the attribute
 - Analysis may be unbiased overall
- Missing at Random (MAR)
 - Missingness is related to other variables
 - Fill in values based other values
 - Almost always produces a bias in the analysis
- Missing Not at Random (MNAR)
 - Missingness is related to unobserved measurements
 - Informative or non-ignorable missingness
- Not possible to know the situation from the data



Duplicate Data

- Data set may include data objects that are duplicates, or almost duplicates of one another
 - Major issue when merging data from heterogeneous sources
- Examples:
 - Same person with multiple email addresses
- Data cleaning
 - Process of dealing with duplicate data issues
- When should duplicate data not be removed?



Similarity and Dissimilarity Measures

- Similarity measure
 - Numerical measure of how alike two data objects are.
 - Is higher when objects are more alike.
 - Often falls in the range [0,1]
- Dissimilarity measure
 - Numerical measure of how different two data objects are
 - Lower when objects are more alike
 - Minimum dissimilarity is often 0
 - Upper limit varies
- Proximity refers to a similarity or dissimilarity



Major Tasks in Data Preprocessing

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

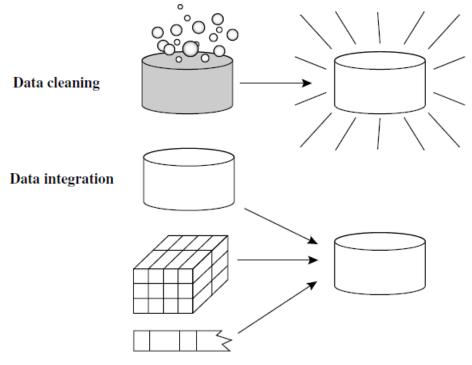


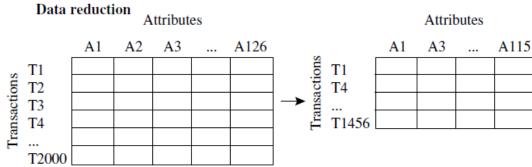
Major Tasks in Data Preprocessing



- Data reduction
 - Dimensionality reduction
 - Numerosity reduction
 - Data compression
- Data transformation and data discretization
 - Normalization
 - Concept hierarchy generation

Major Tasks in Data Preprocessing





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



Exercise

- ☐ Mention the important characteristics of the data.
- ☐ Why we need to pre-process the data?
- ☐ Explain the process of data pre-processing.



References

Text Book:

- Data Mining: Concepts and Techniques by Jiawei Han,
 Micheline Kamber and Jian Pei, The Morgan Kaufmann Series in Data Management Systems, 3rd Edition.
- Introduction to Data Mining by Tan, Steinbach, Kumar, 2nd
 Edition





THANK YOU

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