Chapter 6. Classification and Prediction

- What is classification? What is prediction?
- Issues regarding classification and prediction
- Classification by decision tree induction
- Bayesian classification
- Rule-based classification
- Classification by back propagation
- Support Vector Machines (SVM)
- Associative classification
- Lazy learners (or learning from your neighbors)
- Other classification methods
- Prediction
- Accuracy and error measures
- Ensemble methods
- Model selection
- Summary

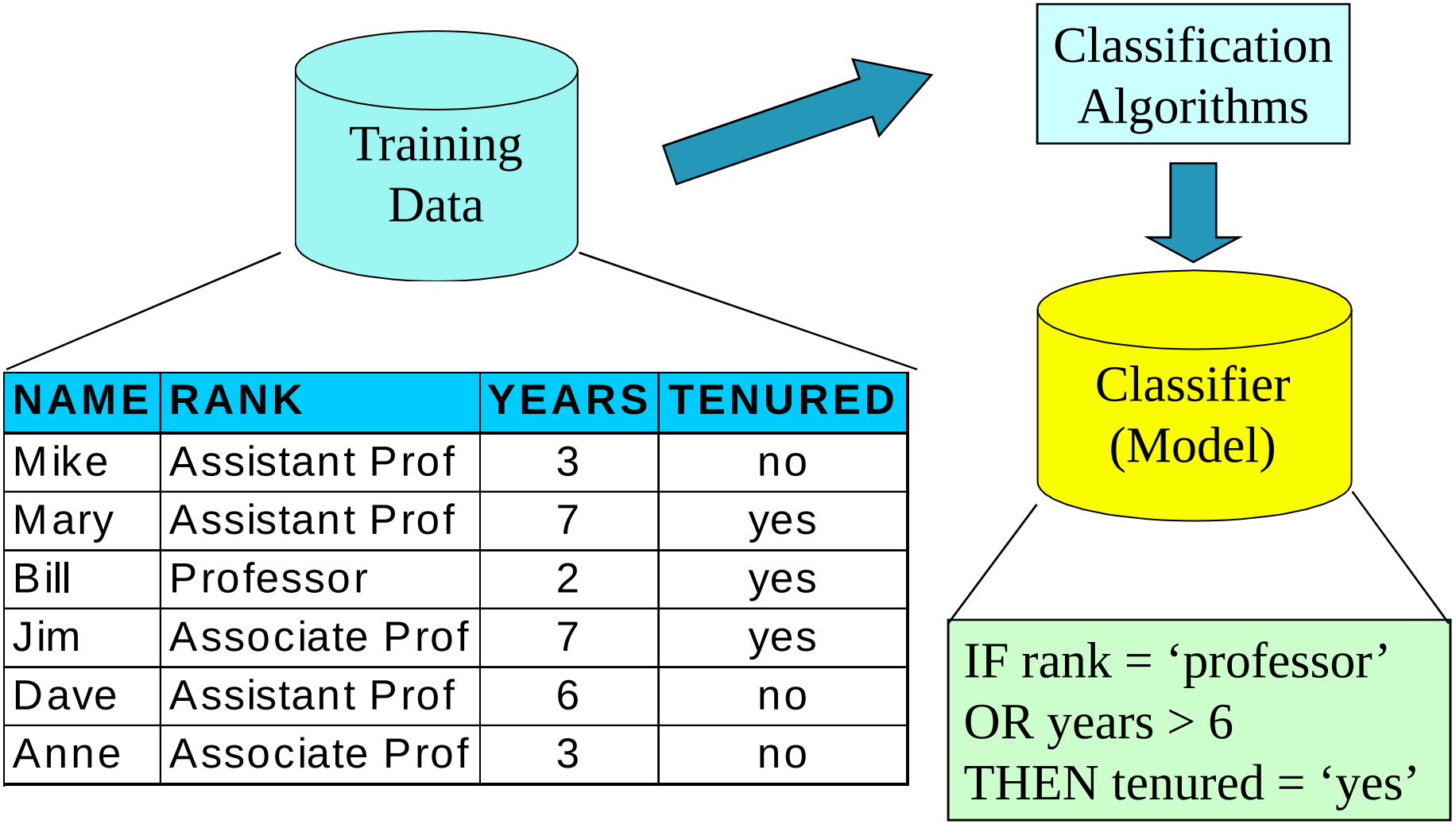
Classification vs. Prediction

- Classification
  - predicts categorical class labels (discrete or nominal)
  - classifies data (constructs a model) based on the training set and the values (class labels) in a classifying attribute and uses it in classifying new data
- Prediction
  - models continuous-valued functions, i.e., predicts unknown or missing values
- Typical applications
  - Credit approval
  - Target marketing
  - Medical diagnosis
  - Fraud detection

Classification—A Two-Step Process

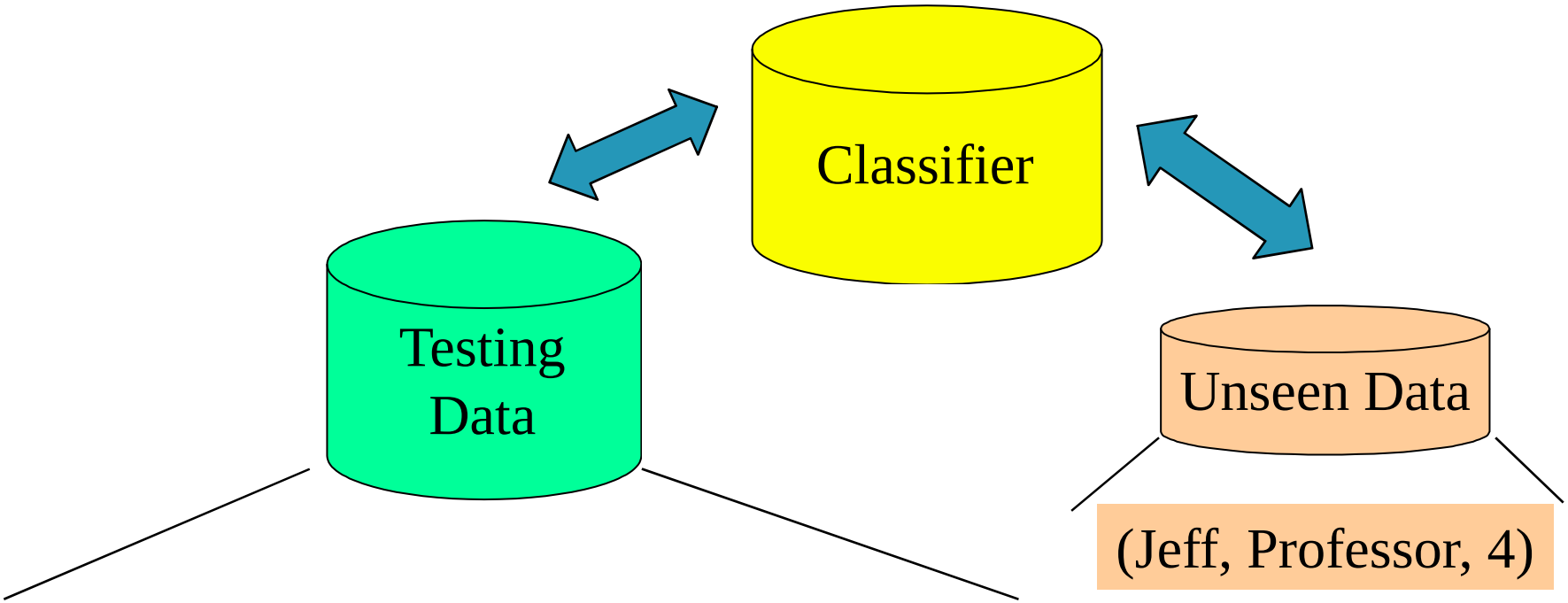
- Model construction: describing a set of predetermined classes
  - Each tuple/sample is assumed to belong to a predefined class, as determined by the class label attribute
  - The set of tuples used for model construction is training set
  - The model is represented as classification rules, decision trees, or mathematical formulae
- Model usage: for classifying future or unknown objects
  - Estimate accuracy of the model
    - The known label of test sample is compared with the classified result from the model
    - Accuracy rate is the percentage of test set samples that are correctly classified by the model
    - Test set is independent of training set, otherwise over-fitting will occur
  - If the accuracy is acceptable, use the model to classify data tuples whose class labels are not known

Process (1): Model Construction



NAME	RANK	YEARS	TENURED
Mike	Assistant Prof	3	no
Mary	Assistant Prof	7	yes
Bill	Professor	2	yes
Jim	Associate Prof	7	yes
Dave	Assistant Prof	6	no
Anne	Associate Prof	3	no

Process (2): Using the Model in Prediction



NAME	RANK	YEARS	TENURED
Tom	Assistant Prof	2	no
Merlisa	Associate Prof	7	no
George	Professor	5	yes
Joseph	Assistant Prof	7	yes

Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning

- Supervised learning (classification)
  - Supervision: The training data (observations, measurements, etc.) are accompanied by labels indicating the class of the observations
  - New data is classified based on the training set
- Unsupervised learning (clustering)
  - The class labels of training data is unknown
  - Given a set of measurements, observations, etc. with the aim of establishing the existence of classes or clusters in the data

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Issues: Data Preparation

- Data cleaning
  - Preprocess data in order to reduce noise and handle missing values
- Relevance analysis (feature selection)
  - Remove the irrelevant or redundant attributes
- Data transformation
  - Generalize and/or normalize data

Issues: Evaluating Classification Methods

- Accuracy
  - classifier accuracy: predicting class label
  - predictor accuracy: guessing value of predicted attributes
- Speed
  - time to construct the model (training time)
  - time to use the model (classification/prediction time)
- Robustness: handling noise and missing values
- Scalability: efficiency in disk-resident databases
- Interpretability
  - understanding and insight provided by the model
- Other measures, e.g., goodness of rules, such as decision tree size or compactness of classification rules

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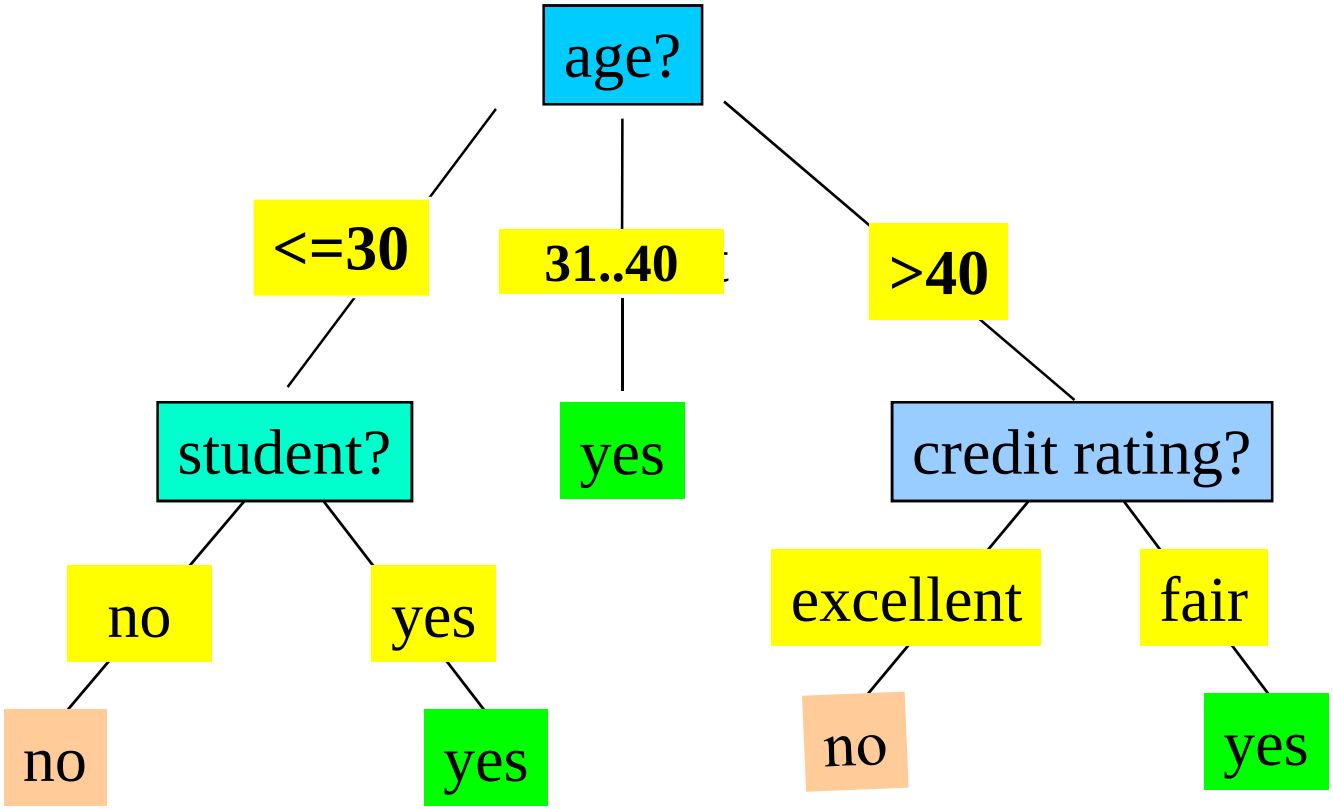
Decision Tree Induction: Training Dataset

This follows an example of Quinlan's ID3 (Playing Tennis)

age	income	student	credit_rating	buys_computer
<=30	high	no	fair	no
<=30	high	no	excellent	no
31…40	high	no	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	excellent	no
31…40	low	yes	excellent	yes
<=30	medium	no	fair	no
<=30	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	yes	fair	yes
<=30	medium	yes	excellent	yes
31…40	medium	no	excellent	yes
31…40	high	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	excellent	no

Output: A Decision Tree for "*buys_computer*"



Algorithm for Decision Tree Induction

- Basic algorithm (a greedy algorithm)
  - Tree is constructed in a top-down recursive divide-and-conquer manner
  - At start, all the training examples are at the root
  - Attributes are categorical (if continuous-valued, they are discretized in advance)
  - Examples are partitioned recursively based on selected attributes
  - Test attributes are selected on the basis of a heuristic or statistical measure (e.g., information gain)
- Conditions for stopping partitioning
  - All samples for a given node belong to the same class
  - There are no remaining attributes for further partitioning – majority voting is employed for classifying the leaf
  - There are no samples left

Attribute Selection Measure: Information Gain (ID3/C4.5)

- Select the attribute with the highest information gain
- Let p_i be the probability that an arbitrary tuple in D belongs to class C_i, estimated by $|C_{i,D}|/|D|$
- Expected information (entropy) needed to classify a tuple in D:

$$Info(D) = -\sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i \log_2(p_i)$$

- Information needed (after using A to split D into v partitions) to classify D:

$$Info_A(D) = \sum_{j=1}^{v} \frac{|D_j|}{|D|} \times I(D_j)$$

- Information gained by branching on attribute A

$$Gain(A) = Info(D) - Info_A(D)$$

Attribute Selection: Information Gain

- Class P: buys_computer = "yes"
- Class N: buys_computer = "no"

$$Info(D) = I(9,5) = -\frac{9}{14}\log_2(\frac{9}{14}) - \frac{5}{14}\log_2(\frac{5}{14}) = 0.940$$

$$Info_{age}(D) = \frac{5}{14}I(2,3) + \frac{4}{14}I(4,0) + \frac{5}{14}I(3,2) = 0.694$$

age	p_i	n_i	$I(p_i, n_i)$
<=30	2	3	0.971
31…40	4	0	0
>40	3	2	0.971

$\frac{5}{14}I(2,3)$ means "age <=30" has 5 out of 14 samples, with 2 yes's and 3 no's. Hence

$$Gain(age) = Info(D) - Info_{age}(D) = 0.246$$

Similarly,

$$Gain(income) = 0.029$$
$$Gain(student) = 0.151$$
$$Gain(credit\_rating) = 0.048$$

age	income	student	credit_rating	buys_computer
<=30	high	no	fair	no
<=30	high	no	excellent	no
31…40	high	no	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	excellent	no
31…40	low	yes	excellent	yes
<=30	medium	no	fair	no
<=30	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	yes	fair	yes
<=30	medium	yes	excellent	yes
31…40	medium	no	excellent	yes
31…40	high	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	excellent	no

Computing Information-Gain for Continuous-Value Attributes

- Let attribute A be a continuous-valued attribute
- Must determine the *best split point* for A
  - Sort the value A in increasing order
  - Typically, the midpoint between each pair of adjacent values is considered as a possible *split point*
    - $(a_i+a_{i+1})/2$ is the midpoint between the values of a_i and a_{i+1}
  - The point with the *minimum expected information requirement* for A is selected as the split-point for A
- Split:
  - D1 is the set of tuples in D satisfying A ≤ split-point, and D2 is the set of tuples in D satisfying A > split-point

Gain Ratio for Attribute Selection (C4.5)

- Information gain measure is biased towards attributes with a large number of values
- C4.5 (a successor of ID3) uses gain ratio to overcome the problem (normalization to information gain)

$$SplitInfo_A(D) = -\sum_{j=1}^{v} \frac{|D_j|}{|D|} \times \log_2\left(\frac{|D_j|}{|D|}\right)$$

  - GainRatio(A) = Gain(A)/SplitInfo(A)
- Ex. $SplitInfo_A(D) = -\frac{4}{14} \times \log_2\left(\frac{4}{14}\right) - \frac{6}{14} \times \log_2\left(\frac{6}{14}\right) - \frac{4}{14} \times \log_2\left(\frac{4}{14}\right) = 0.926$
  - gain_ratio(income) = 0.029/0.926 = 0.031
- The attribute with the maximum gain ratio is selected as the splitting attribute

Gini index (CART, IBM IntelligentMiner)

- If a data set *D* contains examples from *n* classes, gini index, *gini*(*D*) is defined as

$$gini(D) = 1 - \sum_{j=1}^{n} p_j^2$$

  where p_j is the relative frequency of class *j* in *D*

- If a data set *D* is split on A into two subsets D_1 and D_2, the *gini* index *gini*(*D*) is defined as

$$gini_A(D) = \frac{|D_1|}{|D|} gini(D_1) + \frac{|D_2|}{|D|} gini(D_2)$$

- Reduction in Impurity:

$$\Delta gini(A) = gini(D) - gini_A(D)$$

- The attribute provides the smallest $gini_{split}(D)$ (or the largest reduction in impurity) is chosen to split the node (*need to enumerate all the possible splitting points for each attribute*)

Gini index (CART, IBM IntelligentMiner)

- Ex. D has 9 tuples in buys_computer = "yes" and 5 in "no"

$$gini(D) = 1 - \left(\frac{9}{14}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{5}{14}\right)^2 = 0.459$$

- Suppose the attribute income partitions D into 10 in D_1: {low, medium} and 4 in D_2

$$gini_{income \in \{low,medium\}}(D) = \left(\frac{10}{14}\right) Gini(D_1) + \left(\frac{4}{14}\right) Gini(D_1)$$

$$= \frac{10}{14}\left(1 - \left(\frac{6}{10}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{4}{10}\right)^2\right) + \frac{4}{14}\left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2\right)$$

$$= 0.450$$

$$= Gini_{income \in \{high\}}(D)$$

but $gini_{\{medium,high\}}$ is 0.30 and thus the best since it is the lowest

- All attributes are assumed continuous-valued
- May need other tools, e.g., clustering, to get the possible split values
- Can be modified for categorical attributes

Comparing Attribute Selection Measures

- The three measures, in general, return good results but
  - Information gain:
    - biased towards multivalued attributes
  - Gain ratio:
    - tends to prefer unbalanced splits in which one partition is much smaller than the others
  - Gini index:
    - biased to multivalued attributes
    - has difficulty when # of classes is large
    - tends to favor tests that result in equal-sized partitions and purity in both partitions

Other Attribute Selection Measures

- CHAID: a popular decision tree algorithm, measure based on χ^2 test for independence
- C-SEP: performs better than info. gain and gini index in certain cases
- G-statistics: has a close approximation to χ^2 distribution
- MDL (Minimal Description Length) principle (i.e., the simplest solution is preferred):
  - The best tree as the one that requires the fewest # of bits to both (1) encode the tree, and (2) encode the exceptions to the tree
- Multivariate splits (partition based on multiple variable combinations)
  - CART: finds multivariate splits based on a linear comb. of attrs.
- Which attribute selection measure is the best?
  - Most give good results, none is significantly superior than others

Overfitting and Tree Pruning

- Overfitting: An induced tree may overfit the training data
  - Too many branches, some may reflect anomalies due to noise or outliers
  - Poor accuracy for unseen samples
- Two approaches to avoid overfitting
  - Prepruning: Halt tree construction early—do not split a node if this would result in the goodness measure falling below a threshold
    - Difficult to choose an appropriate threshold
  - Postpruning: Remove branches from a "fully grown" tree—get a sequence of progressively pruned trees
    - Use a set of data different from the training data to decide which is the "best pruned tree"
- Cost complexity pruning algorithm (CART)
  - Pruning set
- Pessimistic pruning (C4.5)
- Decision trees suffer from repetition and replication

Enhancements to Basic Decision Tree Induction

- Allow for continuous-valued attributes
  - Dynamically define new discrete-valued attributes that partition the continuous attribute value into a discrete set of intervals
- Handle missing attribute values
  - Assign the most common value of the attribute
  - Assign probability to each of the possible values
- Attribute construction
  - Create new attributes based on existing ones that are sparsely represented
  - This reduces fragmentation, repetition, and replication

Classification in Large Databases

- Classification—a classical problem extensively studied by statisticians and machine learning researchers
- Scalability: Classifying data sets with millions of examples and hundreds of attributes with reasonable speed
- Why decision tree induction in data mining?
  - relatively faster learning speed (than other classification methods)
  - convertible to simple and easy to understand classification rules
  - can use SQL queries for accessing databases
  - comparable classification accuracy with other methods

Scalable Decision Tree Induction Methods

- SLIQ
  - Builds an index for each attribute and only class list and the current attribute list reside in memory
- SPRINT
  - Constructs an attribute list data structure
- RainForest
  - Builds an AVC-list (attribute, value, class label)
- BOAT
  - Uses bootstrapping to create several small samples

Scalability Framework for RainForest

- Separates the scalability aspects from the criteria that determine the quality of the tree
- Builds an AVC-list**: AVC (Attribute, Value, Class_label)**
- **AVC-set** (of an attribute *X*)
  - Projection of training dataset onto the attribute *X* and class label where counts of individual class label are aggregated
- **AVC-group** (of a node *n*)
  - Set of AVC-sets of all predictor attributes at the node *n*

Rainforest: Training Set and Its AVC Sets

Training Examples

age	income	student	credit_rating	comp
<=30	high	no	fair	no
<=30	high	no	excellent	no
31…40	high	no	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	excellent	no
31…40	low	yes	excellent	yes
<=30	medium	no	fair	no
<=30	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	yes	fair	yes
<=30	medium	yes	excellent	yes
31…40	medium	no	excellent	yes
31…40	high	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	excellent	no

AVC-set on *Age*

Age	Buy_Computer	
	yes	no
<=30	3	2
31..40	4	0
>40	3	2

AVC-set on *income*

income	Buy_Computer	
	yes	no
high	2	2
medium	4	2
low	3	1

AVC-set on *Student*

student	Buy_Computer	
	yes	no
yes	6	1
no	3	4

AVC-set on *credit_rating*

Credit rating	Buy_Computer	
	yes	no
fair	6	2
excellent	3	3

BOAT (Bootstrapped Optimistic Algorithm for Tree Construction)

- Use a statistical technique called *bootstrapping* to create several smaller samples (subsets), each fits in memory
- Each subset is used to create a tree, resulting in several trees
- These trees are examined and used to construct a new tree *T'*
  - It turns out that *T'* is very close to the tree that would be generated using the whole data set together
- Adv: requires only two scans of DB, an incremental alg.

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Bayesian Classification: Why?

- A statistical classifier: performs *probabilistic prediction, i.e.,* predicts class membership probabilities
- Foundation: Based on Bayes' Theorem.
- Performance: A simple Bayesian classifier, *naïve Bayesian classifier*, has comparable performance with decision tree and selected neural network classifiers
- Incremental: Each training example can incrementally increase/decrease the probability that a hypothesis is correct — prior knowledge can be combined with observed data
- Standard: Even when Bayesian methods are computationally intractable, they can provide a standard of optimal decision making against which other methods can be measured

Bayesian Theorem: Basics

- Let **X** be a data sample ("*evidence*"): class label is unknown
- Let H be a *hypothesis* that X belongs to class C
- Classification is to determine P(H|**X**), the probability that the hypothesis holds given the observed data sample **X**
- P(H) (*prior probability*), the initial probability
  - E.g., **X** will buy computer, regardless of age, income, …
- P(**X**): probability that sample data is observed
- P(**X**|H) (*posteriori probability*), the probability of observing the sample **X**, given that the hypothesis holds
  - E.g., Given that **X** will buy computer, the prob. that X is 31..40, medium income

Bayesian Theorem

- Given training data **X**, *posteriori probability of a hypothesis* H, P(H|**X**), follows the Bayes theorem

$$P(H \mid \mathbf{X}) = \frac{P(\mathbf{X} \mid H)P(H)}{P(\mathbf{X})}$$

- Informally, this can be written as

  posteriori = likelihood x prior/evidence

- Predicts **X** belongs to C_2 iff the probability $P(C_i|\mathbf{X})$ is the highest among all the $P(C_k|X)$ for all the *k* classes
- Practical difficulty: require initial knowledge of many probabilities, significant computational cost

Towards Naïve Bayesian Classifier

- Let D be a training set of tuples and their associated class labels, and each tuple is represented by an n-D attribute vector **X** = (x_1, x_2, …, x_n)
- Suppose there are *m* classes C_1, C_2, …, C_m.
- Classification is to derive the maximum posteriori, i.e., the maximal $P(C_i|\mathbf{X})$
- This can be derived from Bayes' theorem

$$P(C_i|\mathbf{X}) = \frac{P(\mathbf{X}|C_i)P(C_i)}{P(\mathbf{X})}$$

- Since P(X) is constant for all classes, only

$$P(C_i|\mathbf{X}) = P(\mathbf{X}|C_i)P(C_i)$$

  needs to be maximized

Derivation of Naïve Bayes Classifier

- A simplified assumption: attributes are conditionally independent (i.e., no dependence relation between attributes):

$$P(\mathbf{X}|C_i) = \prod_{k=1}^{n} P(x_k|C_i) = P(x_1|C_i) \times P(x_2|C_i) \times ... \times P(x_n|C_i)$$

- This greatly reduces the computation cost: Only counts the class distribution
- If A_k is categorical, $P(x_k|C_i)$ is the # of tuples in C_i having value x_k for A_k divided by $|C_{i,D}|$ (# of tuples of C_i in D)
- If A_k is continous-valued, $P(x_k|C_i)$ is usually computed based on Gaussian distribution with a mean μ and standard deviation σ

$$g(x, \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

and $P(x_k|C_i)$ is

$$P(\mathbf{X}|C_i) = g(x_k, \mu_{C_i}, \sigma_{C_i})$$

Naïve Bayesian Classifier: Training Dataset

Class:
C1:buys_computer = 'yes'
C2:buys_computer = 'no'

Data sample
X = (age <=30,
Income = medium,
Student = yes
Credit_rating = Fair)

age	income	student	credit_rating	comp
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Naïve Bayesian Classifier: An Example

- $P(C_i)$: P(buys_computer = "yes") = 9/14 = 0.643
  P(buys_computer = "no") = 5/14= 0.357

- Compute $P(X|C_i)$ for each class
  P(age = "<=30" | buys_computer = "yes") = 2/9 = 0.222
  P(age = "<= 30" | buys_computer = "no") = 3/5 = 0.6
  P(income = "medium" | buys_computer = "yes") = 4/9 = 0.444
  P(income = "medium" | buys_computer = "no") = 2/5 = 0.4
  P(student = "yes" | buys_computer = "yes) = 6/9 = 0.667
  P(student = "yes" | buys_computer = "no") = 1/5 = 0.2
  P(credit_rating = "fair" | buys_computer = "yes") = 6/9 = 0.667
  P(credit_rating = "fair" | buys_computer = "no") = 2/5 = 0.4

- **X = (age <= 30 , income = medium, student = yes, credit_rating = fair)**

$P(X|C_i)$: P(X|buys_computer = "yes") = 0.222 x 0.444 x 0.667 x 0.667 = 0.044
P(X|buys_computer = "no") = 0.6 x 0.4 x 0.2 x 0.4 = 0.019
$P(X|C_i)*P(C_i)$: P(X|buys_computer = "yes") * P(buys_computer = "yes") = 0.028
P(X|buys_computer = "no") * P(buys_computer = "no") = 0.007

Therefore, X belongs to class ("buys_computer = yes")

Avoiding the 0-Probability Problem

- Naïve Bayesian prediction requires each conditional prob. be non-zero. Otherwise, the predicted prob. will be zero

$$P(X \mid C_i) = \prod_{k=1}^{n} P(x_k \mid C_i)$$

- Ex. Suppose a dataset with 1000 tuples, income=low (0), income= medium (990), and income = high (10),
- Use Laplacian correction (or Laplacian estimator)
  - Adding 1 to each case

    Prob(income = low) = 1/1003

    Prob(income = medium) = 991/1003

    Prob(income = high) = 11/1003
  - The "corrected" prob. estimates are close to their "uncorrected" counterparts

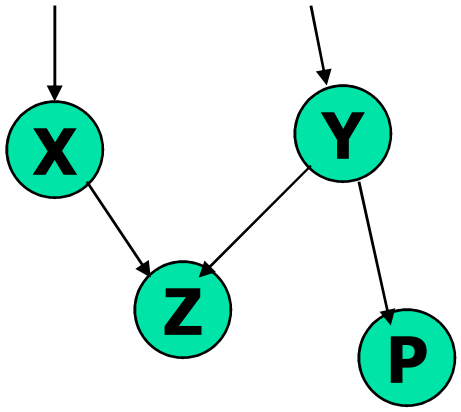
Naïve Bayesian Classifier: Comments

- Advantages
  - Easy to implement
  - Good results obtained in most of the cases
- Disadvantages
  - Assumption: class conditional independence, therefore loss of accuracy
  - Practically, dependencies exist among variables
    - E.g., hospitals: patients: Profile: age, family history, etc.

    Symptoms: fever, cough etc., Disease: lung cancer, diabetes, etc.
    - Dependencies among these cannot be modeled by Naïve Bayesian Classifier
- How to deal with these dependencies?
  - Bayesian Belief Networks

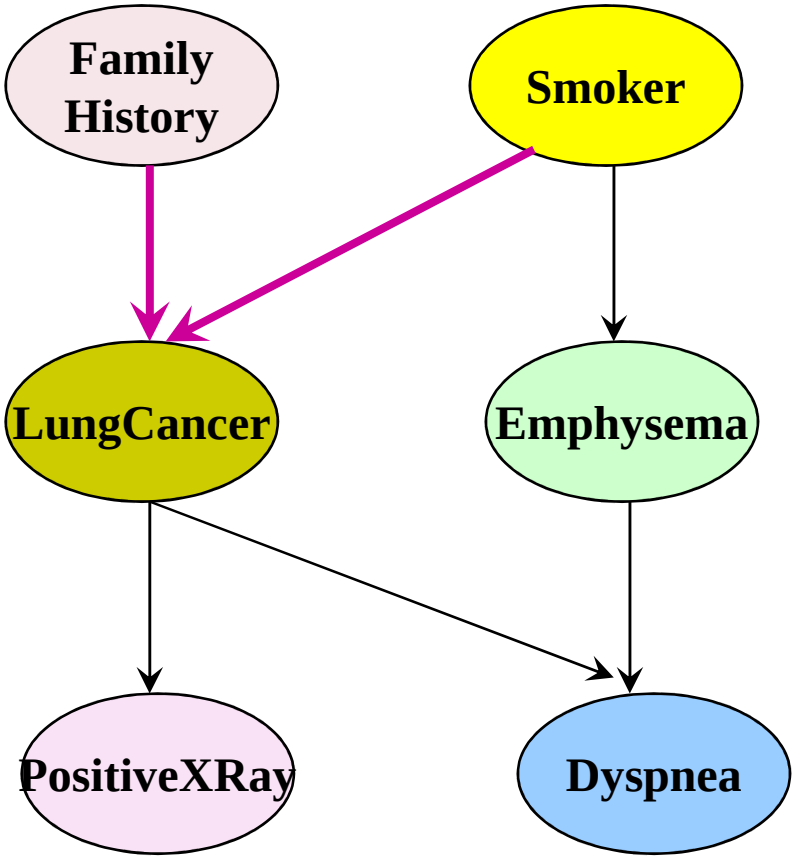
Bayesian Belief Networks

- Bayesian belief network allows a *subset* of the variables conditionally independent
- A graphical model of causal relationships
  - Represents dependency among the variables
  - Gives a specification of joint probability distribution



- ❑ Nodes: random variables
- ❑ Links: dependency
- ❑ X and Y are the parents of Z, and Y is the parent of P
- ❑ No dependency between Z and P
- ❑ Has no loops or cycles

Bayesian Belief Network: An Example



The **conditional probability table** (**CPT**) for variable LungCancer:

	(FH, S)	(FH, ~S)	(~FH, S)	(~FH, ~S)
LC	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.1
~LC	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.9

CPT shows the conditional probability for each possible combination of its parents

Bayesian Belief Networks

Derivation of the probability of a particular combination of values of **X**, from CPT:

$$P(x_1, \ldots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} P(x_i \mid Parents(Y_i))$$

Training Bayesian Networks

- Several scenarios:
  - Given both the network structure and all variables observable: *learn only the CPTs*
  - Network structure known, some hidden variables: *gradient descent* (greedy hill-climbing) method, analogous to neural network learning
  - Network structure unknown, all variables observable: search through the model space to *reconstruct network topology*
  - Unknown structure, all hidden variables: No good algorithms known for this purpose
- Ref. D. Heckerman: Bayesian networks for data mining

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Using IF-THEN Rules for Classification

- Represent the knowledge in the form of IF-THEN rules

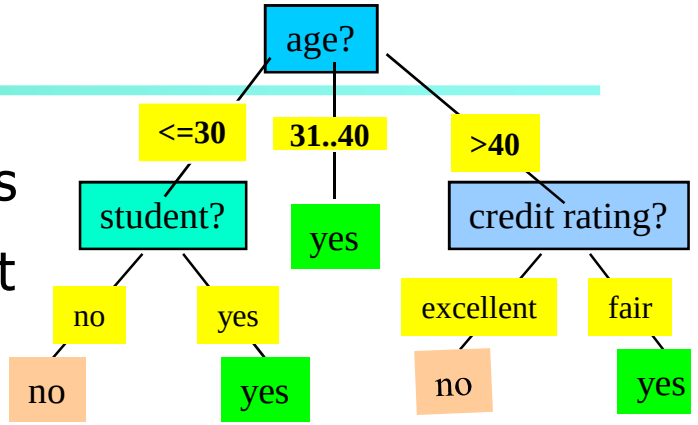
  R: IF *age* = youth AND *student* = yes THEN *buys_computer* = yes

  - Rule antecedent/precondition vs. rule consequent
- Assessment of a rule: *coverage* and *accuracy*
  - n_{covers} = # of tuples covered by R
  - $n_{correct}$ = # of tuples correctly classified by R

  coverage(R) = n_{covers} /|D| /* D: training data set */

  accuracy(R) = $n_{correct}$ / n_{covers}
- If more than one rule is triggered, need **conflict resolution**
  - Size ordering: assign the highest priority to the triggering rules that has the "toughest" requirement (i.e., with the *most attribute test*)
  - Class-based ordering: decreasing order of *prevalence or misclassification cost per class*
  - Rule-based ordering (**decision list**): rules are organized into one long priority list, according to some measure of rule quality or by experts

Rule Extraction from a Decision Tree



- Rules are easier to understand than large trees
- One rule is created for each path from the root to a leaf
- Each attribute-value pair along a path forms a conjunction: the leaf holds the class prediction
- Rules are mutually exclusive and exhaustive
- Example: Rule extraction from our *buys_computer* decision-tree

IF *age* = young AND *student* = *no* THEN *buys_computer* = *no*

IF *age* = young AND *student* = *yes* THEN *buys_computer* = *yes*

IF *age* = mid-age THEN *buys_computer* = *yes*

IF *age* = old AND *credit_rating* = *excellent* THEN *buys_computer* = *yes*

IF *age* = young AND *credit_rating* = *fair* THEN *buys_computer* = *no*

Rule Extraction from the Training Data

- Sequential covering algorithm: Extracts rules directly from training data
- Typical sequential covering algorithms: FOIL, AQ, CN2, RIPPER
- Rules are learned *sequentially*, each for a given class C_i will cover many tuples of C_i but none (or few) of the tuples of other classes
- Steps:
  - Rules are learned one at a time
  - Each time a rule is learned, the tuples covered by the rules are removed
  - The process repeats on the remaining tuples unless *termination condition*, e.g., when no more training examples or when the quality of a rule returned is below a user-specified threshold
- Comp. w. decision-tree induction: learning a set of rules *simultaneously*

How to Learn-One-Rule?

- Star with the most general rule possible: condition = empty
- Adding new attributes by adopting a greedy depth-first strategy
  - Picks the one that most improves the rule quality
- Rule-Quality measures: consider both coverage and accuracy
  - Foil-gain (in FOIL & RIPPER): assesses info_gain by extending condition

$$FOIL\_Gain = pos' \times (\log_2 \frac{pos'}{pos'+neg'} - \log_2 \frac{pos}{pos+neg})$$

It favors rules that have high accuracy and cover many positive tuples

- Rule pruning based on an independent set of test tuples

$$FOIL\_Prune(R) = \frac{pos - neg}{pos + neg}$$

Pos/neg are # of positive/negative tuples covered by R.

If *FOIL_Prune* is higher for the pruned version of R, prune R

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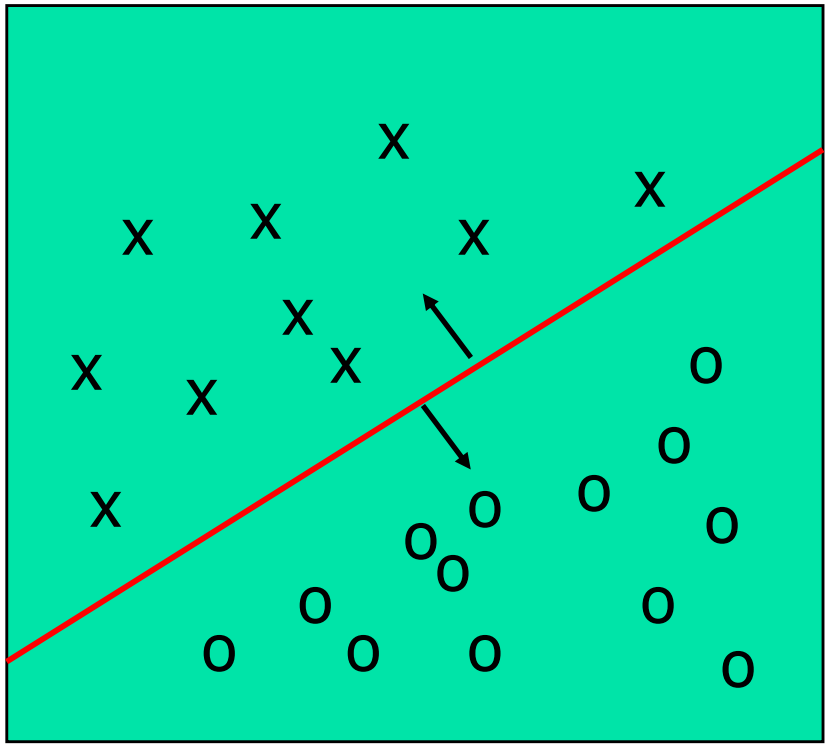
Classification: A Mathematical Mapping

- Classification:
  - predicts categorical class labels
- E.g., Personal homepage classification
  - $x_i = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots)$, $y_i = +1$ or -1
  - x_1 : # of a word "homepage"
  - x_2 : # of a word "welcome"
- Mathematically
  - $x \in X = \Re^n$, $y \in Y = \{+1, -1\}$
  - We want a function f: X → Y

Linear Classification



- Binary Classification problem
- The data above the red line belongs to class 'x'
- The data below red line belongs to class 'o'
- Examples: SVM, Perceptron, Probabilistic Classifiers

Discriminative Classifiers

- Advantages
  - prediction accuracy is generally high
    - As compared to Bayesian methods – in general
  - robust, works when training examples contain errors
  - fast evaluation of the learned target function
    - Bayesian networks are normally slow
- Criticism
  - long training time
  - difficult to understand the learned function (weights)
    - Bayesian networks can be used easily for pattern discovery
  - not easy to incorporate domain knowledge
    - Easy in the form of priors on the data or distributions

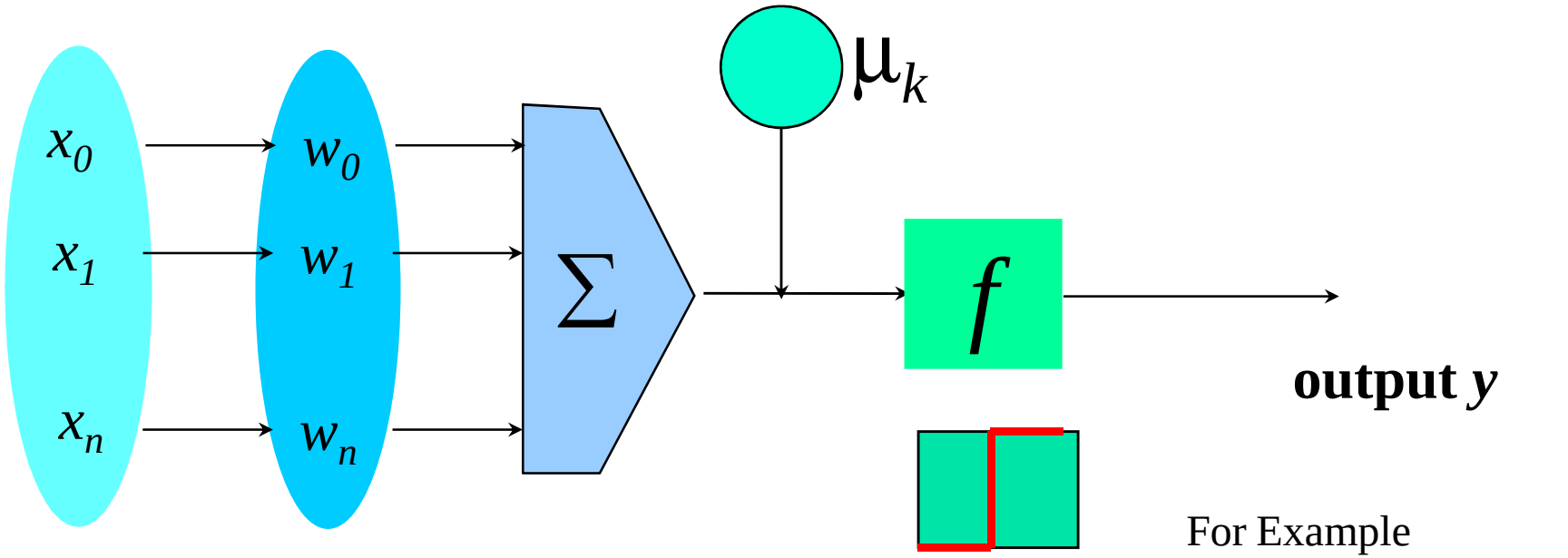
Classification by Backpropagation

- Backpropagation: A **neural network** learning algorithm
- Started by psychologists and neurobiologists to develop and test computational analogues of neurons
- A neural network: A set of connected input/output units where each connection has a **weight** associated with it
- During the learning phase, the **network learns by adjusting the weights** so as to be able to predict the correct class label of the input tuples
- Also referred to as **connectionist learning** due to the connections between units

Neural Network as a Classifier

- Weakness
  - Long training time
  - Require a number of parameters typically best determined empirically, e.g., the network topology or ``structure."
  - Poor interpretability: Difficult to interpret the symbolic meaning behind the learned weights and of ``hidden units" in the network
- Strength
  - High tolerance to noisy data
  - Ability to classify untrained patterns
  - Well-suited for continuous-valued inputs and outputs
  - Successful on a wide array of real-world data
  - Algorithms are inherently parallel
  - Techniques have recently been developed for the extraction of rules from trained neural networks

A Neuron (= a perceptron)

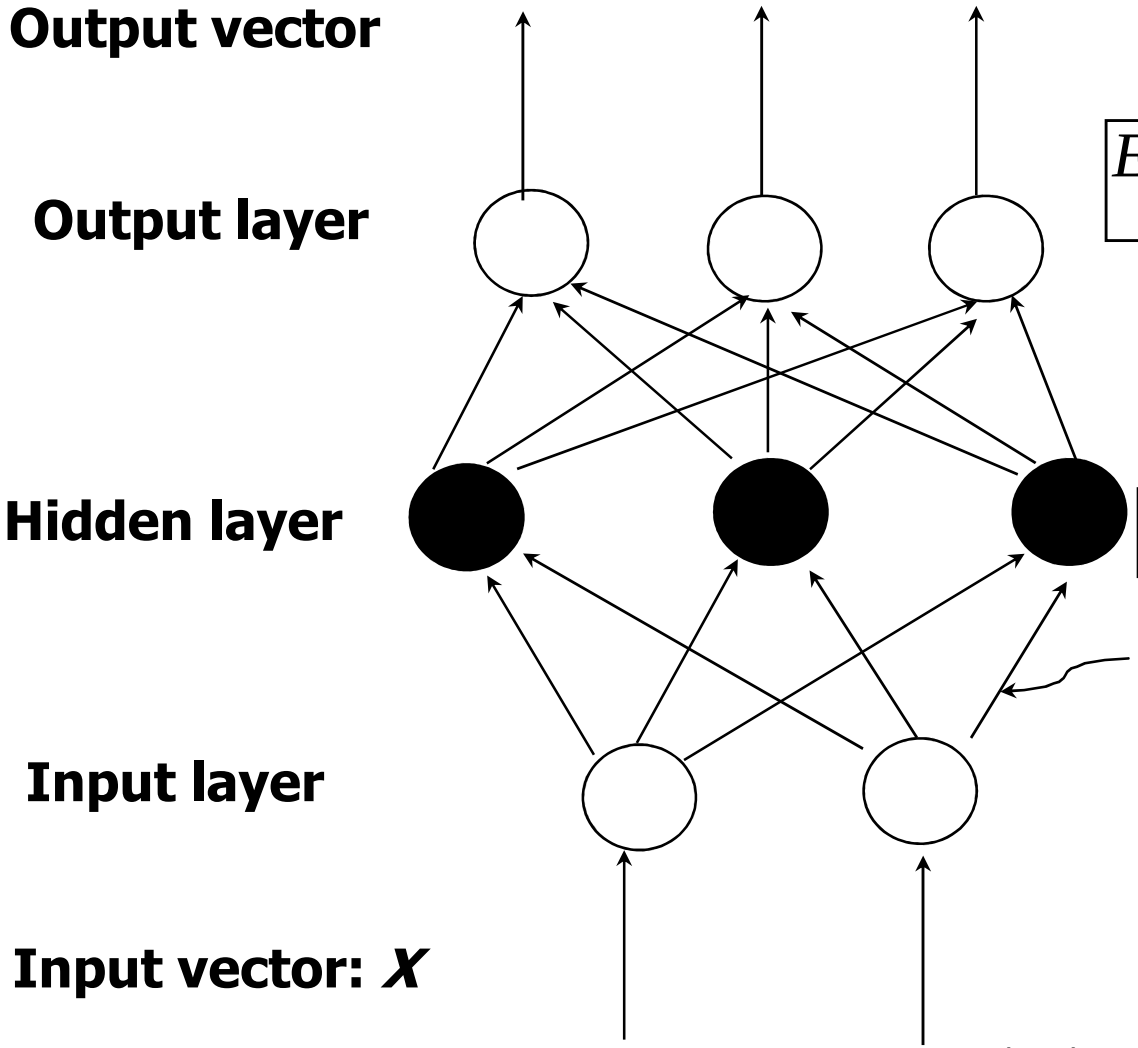


For Example

$$y = \text{sign}(\sum_{i=0}^{n} w_i x_i + \mu_k)$$

- The *n*-dimensional input vector **x** is mapped into variable y by means of the scalar product and a nonlinear function mapping

A Multi-Layer Feed-Forward Neural Network



$$Err_j = O_j(1-O_j)\sum_k Err_k w_{jk}$$

$$\theta_j = \theta_j + (l)Err_j$$

$$w_{ij} = w_{ij} + (l)Err_j O_i$$

$$Err_j = O_j(1-O_j)(T_j - O_j)$$

$$O_j = \frac{1}{1+e^{-I_j}}$$

$$I_j = \sum_i w_{ij} O_i + \theta_j$$

How A Multi-Layer Neural Network Works?

- The **inputs** to the network correspond to the attributes measured for each training tuple
- Inputs are fed simultaneously into the units making up the **input layer**
- They are then weighted and fed simultaneously to a **hidden layer**
- The number of hidden layers is arbitrary, although usually only one
- The weighted outputs of the last hidden layer are input to units making up the **output layer**, which emits the network's prediction
- The network is **feed-forward** in that none of the weights cycles back to an input unit or to an output unit of a previous layer
- From a statistical point of view, networks perform **nonlinear regression**: Given enough hidden units and enough training samples, they can closely approximate any function

Defining a Network Topology

- First decide the **network topology:** # of units in the *input layer*, # of *hidden layers* (if > 1), # of units in *each hidden layer*, and # of units in the *output layer*
- Normalizing the input values for each attribute measured in the training tuples to [0.0—1.0]
- One **input** unit per domain value, each initialized to 0
- **Output**, if for classification and more than two classes, one output unit per class is used
- Once a network has been trained and its accuracy is **unacceptable**, repeat the training process with a *different network topology* or a *different set of initial weights*

Backpropagation

- Iteratively process a set of training tuples & compare the network's prediction with the actual known target value
- For each training tuple, the weights are modified to **minimize the mean squared error** between the network's prediction and the actual target value
- Modifications are made in the "**backwards**" direction: from the output layer, through each hidden layer down to the first hidden layer, hence "**backpropagation**"
- Steps
  - Initialize weights (to small random #s) and biases in the network
  - Propagate the inputs forward (by applying activation function)
  - Backpropagate the error (by updating weights and biases)
  - Terminating condition (when error is very small, etc.)

Backpropagation and Interpretability

- Efficiency of backpropagation: Each epoch (one interation through the training set) takes O(|D| * *w*), with |D| tuples and *w* weights, but # of epochs can be exponential to n, the number of inputs, in the worst case
- Rule extraction from networks: network pruning
  - Simplify the network structure by removing weighted links that have the least effect on the trained network
  - Then perform link, unit, or activation value clustering
  - The set of input and activation values are studied to derive rules describing the relationship between the input and hidden unit layers
- Sensitivity analysis: assess the impact that a given input variable has on a network output. The knowledge gained from this analysis can be represented in rules

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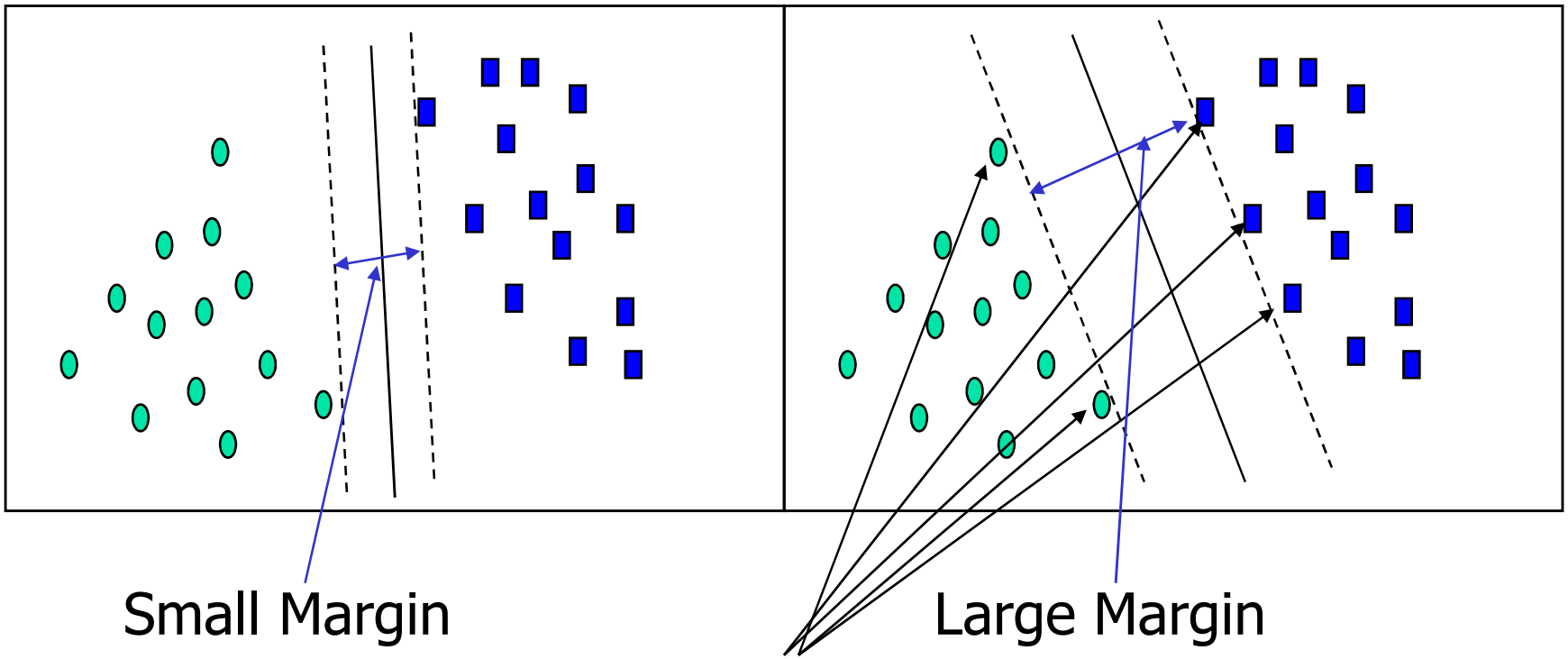
SVM—Support Vector Machines

- A new classification method for both linear and nonlinear data
- It uses a nonlinear mapping to transform the original training data into a higher dimension
- With the new dimension, it searches for the linear optimal separating hyperplane (i.e., "decision boundary")
- With an appropriate nonlinear mapping to a sufficiently high dimension, data from two classes can always be separated by a hyperplane
- SVM finds this hyperplane using support vectors ("essential" training tuples) and margins (defined by the support vectors)

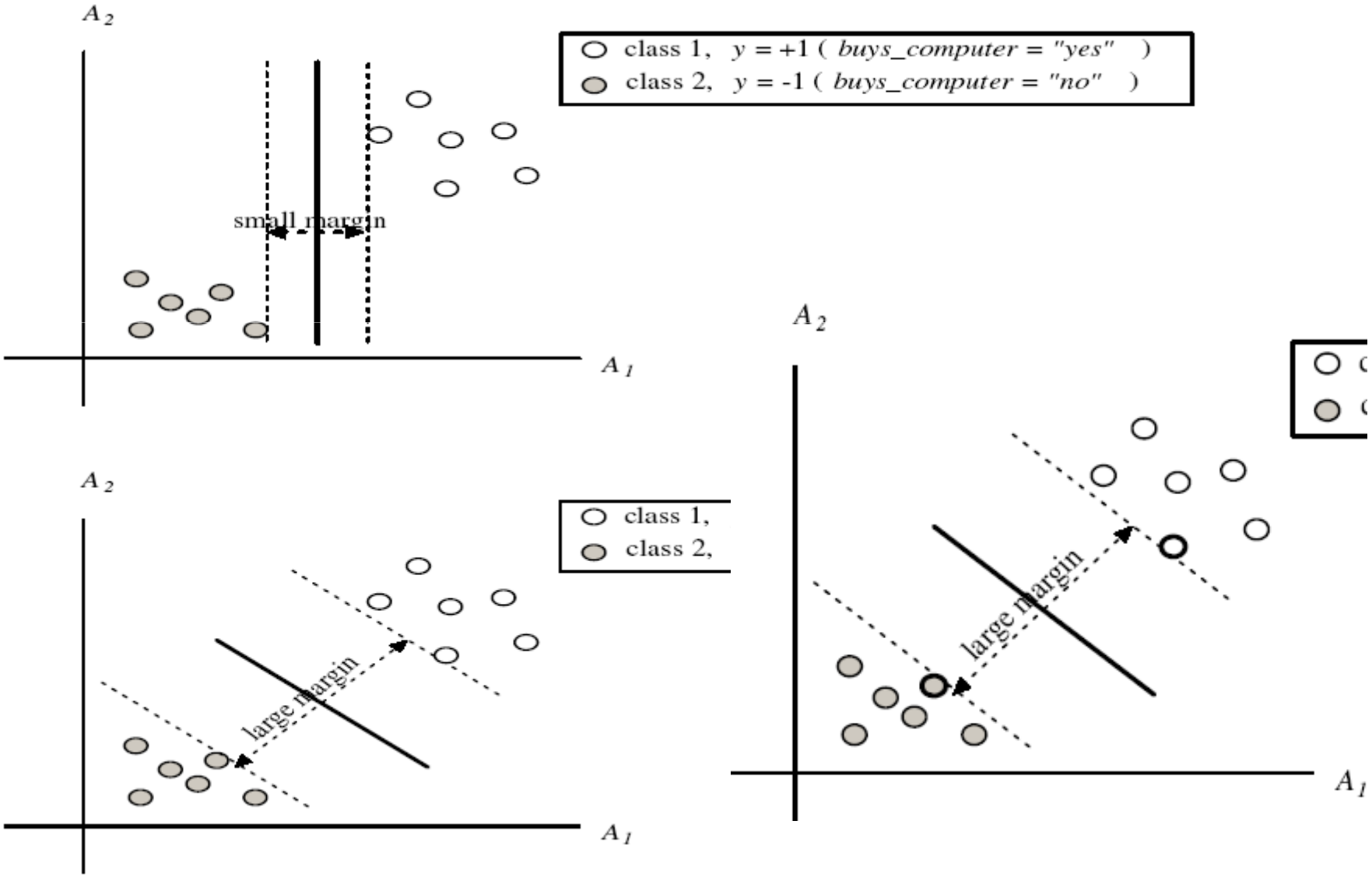
SVM—History and Applications

- Vapnik and colleagues (1992)—groundwork from Vapnik & Chervonenkis' statistical learning theory in 1960s
- Features: training can be slow but accuracy is high owing to their ability to model complex nonlinear decision boundaries (margin maximization)
- Used both for classification and prediction
- Applications:
  - handwritten digit recognition, object recognition, speaker identification, benchmarking time-series prediction tests

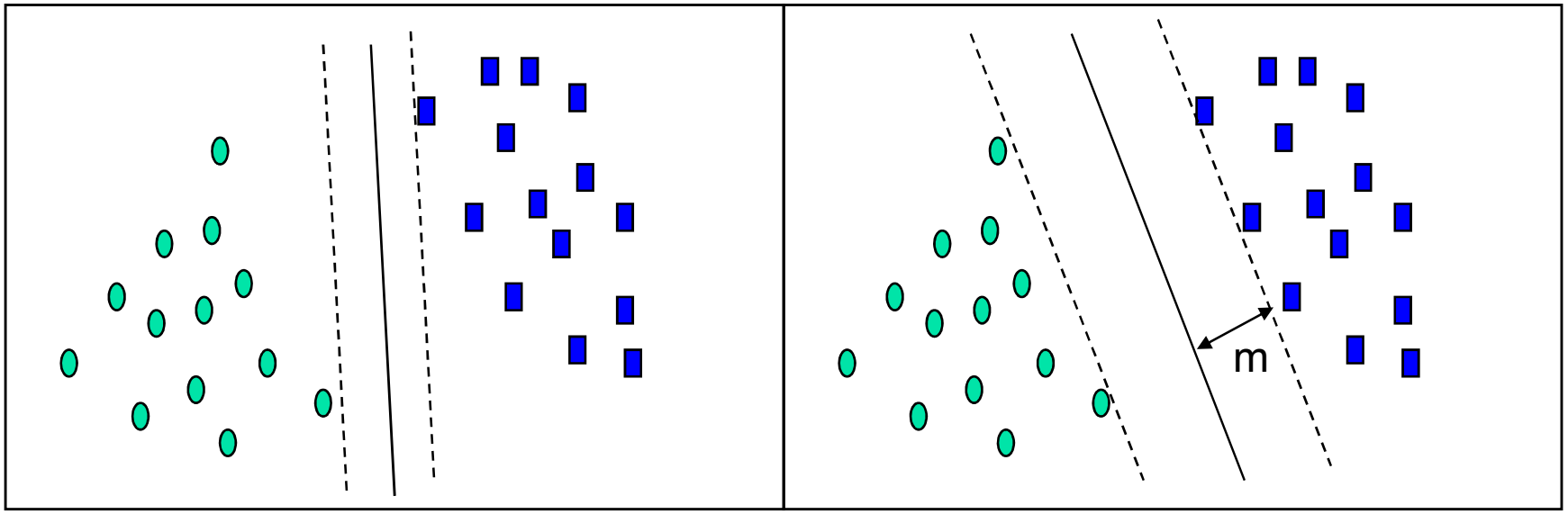
SVM—General Philosophy



SVM—Margins and Support Vectors



SVM—When Data Is Linearly Separable



Let data D be ($\mathbf{X}_1$, y_1), …, ($\mathbf{X}_{|D|}$, $y_{|D|}$), where $\mathbf{X}_i$ is the set of training tuples associated with the class labels y_i

There are infinite lines (hyperplanes) separating the two classes but we want to find the best one (the one that minimizes classification error on unseen data)

SVM searches for the hyperplane with the largest margin, i.e., **maximum marginal hyperplane** (MMH)

SVM—Linearly Separable

- A separating hyperplane can be written as

  $\mathbf{W} \bullet \mathbf{X} + b = 0$

  where $\mathbf{W}=\{w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_n\}$ is a weight vector and b a scalar (bias)
- For 2-D it can be written as

  $w_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 = 0$
- The hyperplane defining the sides of the margin:

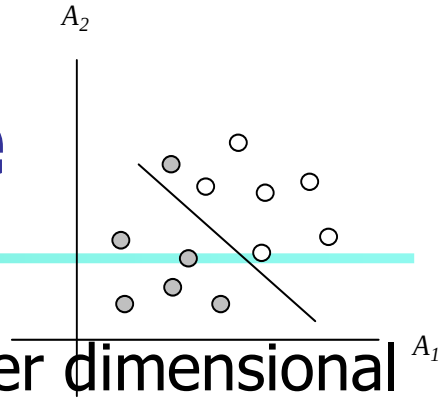
  $H_1: w_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 \geq 1$ for $y_i = +1$, and

  $H_2: w_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 \leq -1$ for $y_i = -1$
- Any training tuples that fall on hyperplanes H_1 or H_2 (i.e., the sides defining the margin) are **support vectors**
- This becomes a **constrained (convex) quadratic optimization** problem: Quadratic objective function and linear constraints → *Quadratic Programming (QP)* → Lagrangian multipliers

Why Is SVM Effective on High Dimensional Data?

- The complexity of trained classifier is characterized by the # of support vectors rather than the dimensionality of the data
- The support vectors are the essential or critical training examples — they lie closest to the decision boundary (MMH)
- If all other training examples are removed and the training is repeated, the same separating hyperplane would be found
- The number of support vectors found can be used to compute an (upper) bound on the expected error rate of the SVM classifier, which is independent of the data dimensionality
- Thus, an SVM with a small number of support vectors can have good generalization, even when the dimensionality of the data is high

SVM—Linearly Inseparable



- Transform the original input data into a higher dimensional space

Example 6.8 Nonlinear transformation of original input data into a higher dimensional space. Consider the following example. A 3D input vector $\mathbf{X} = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$ is mapped into a 6D space Z using the mappings $\phi_1(X) = x_1, \phi_2(X) = x_2, \phi_3(X) = x_3, \phi_4(X) = (x_1)^2, \phi_5(X) = x_1x_2$, and $\phi_6(X) = x_1x_3$. A decision hyperplane in the new space is $d(\mathbf{Z}) = \mathbf{WZ} + b$, where $\mathbf{W}$ and $\mathbf{Z}$ are vectors. This is linear. We solve for $\mathbf{W}$ and b and then substitute back so that we see that the linear decision hyperplane in the new $(\mathbf{Z})$ space corresponds to a nonlinear second order polynomial in the original 3-D input space,

$$\begin{aligned} d(Z) &= w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + w_3x_3 + w_4(x_1)^2 + w_5x_1x_2 + w_6x_1x_3 + b \\ &= w_1z_1 + w_2z_2 + w_3z_3 + w_4z_4 + w_5z_5 + w_6z_6 + b \end{aligned}$$

■

- Search for a linear separating hyperplane in the new space

SVM—Kernel functions

- Instead of computing the dot product on the transformed data tuples, it is mathematically equivalent to instead applying a kernel function $K(\mathbf{X_i}, \mathbf{X_j})$ to the original data, i.e., $K(\mathbf{X_i}, \mathbf{X_j}) = \Phi(\mathbf{X_i})\ \Phi(\mathbf{X_j})$
- Typical Kernel Functions

$$\text{Polynomial kernel of degree } h: \quad K(X_i, X_j) = (X_i \cdot X_j + 1)^h$$

$$\text{Gaussian radial basis function kernel}: \quad K(X_i, X_j) = e^{-\|X_i - X_j\|^2/2\sigma^2}$$

$$\text{Sigmoid kernel}: \quad K(X_i, X_j) = \tanh(\kappa X_i \cdot X_j - \delta)$$

- SVM can also be used for classifying multiple (> 2) classes and for regression analysis (with additional user parameters)

SVM vs. Neural Network

- SVM
  - Relatively new concept
  - Deterministic algorithm
  - Nice Generalization properties
  - Hard to learn – learned in batch mode using quadratic programming techniques
  - Using kernels can learn very complex functions
- Neural Network
  - Relatively old
  - Nondeterministic algorithm
  - Generalizes well but doesn't have strong mathematical foundation
  - Can easily be learned in incremental fashion
  - To learn complex functions—use multilayer perceptron (not that trivial)

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Associative Classification

- Associative classification
  - Association rules are generated and analyzed for use in classification
  - Search for strong associations between frequent patterns (conjunctions of attribute-value pairs) and class labels
  - Classification: Based on evaluating a set of rules in the form of

    $P_1 \wedge p_2 \ldots \wedge p_l \rightarrow$ "$A_{class} = C$" (conf, sup)
- Why effective?
  - It explores highly confident associations among multiple attributes and may overcome some constraints introduced by decision-tree induction, which considers only one attribute at a time
  - In many studies, associative classification has been found to be more accurate than some traditional classification methods, such as C4.5

Typical Associative Classification Methods

- CBA (Classification By Association: Liu, Hsu & Ma, KDD'98)
  - Mine association possible rules in the form of
    - Cond-set (a set of attribute-value pairs) → class label
  - Build classifier: Organize rules according to decreasing precedence based on confidence and then support
- CMAR (Classification based on Multiple Association Rules: Li, Han, Pei, ICDM'01)
  - Classification: Statistical analysis on multiple rules
- CPAR (Classification based on Predictive Association Rules: Yin & Han, SDM'03)
  - Generation of predictive rules (FOIL-like analysis)
  - High efficiency, accuracy similar to CMAR
- RCBT (Mining top-*k* covering rule groups for gene expression data, Cong et al. SIGMOD'05)
  - Explore high-dimensional classification, using top-k rule groups
  - Achieve high classification accuracy and high run-time efficiency

A Closer Look at CMAR

- CMAR (Classification based on Multiple Association Rules: Li, Han, Pei, ICDM'01)
- Efficiency: Uses an enhanced FP-tree that maintains the distribution of class labels among tuples satisfying each frequent itemset
- Rule pruning whenever a rule is inserted into the tree
  - Given two rules, R_1 and R_2, if the antecedent of R_1 is more general than that of R_2 and $conf(R_1) \geq conf(R_2)$, then R_2 is pruned
  - Prunes rules for which the rule antecedent and class are not positively correlated, based on a χ^2 test of statistical significance
- Classification based on generated/pruned rules
  - If only one rule satisfies tuple X, assign the class label of the rule
  - If a rule set S satisfies X, CMAR
    - divides S into groups according to class labels
    - uses a weighted χ^2 measure to find the strongest group of rules, based on the statistical correlation of rules within a group
    - assigns X the class label of the strongest group

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Lazy vs. Eager Learning

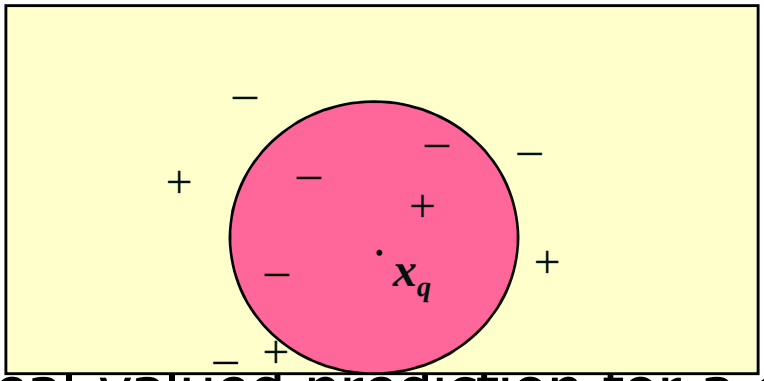
- Lazy vs. eager learning
  - Lazy learning (e.g., instance-based learning): Simply stores training data (or only minor processing) and waits until it is given a test tuple
  - Eager learning (the above discussed methods): Given a set of training set, constructs a classification model before receiving new (e.g., test) data to classify
- Lazy: less time in training but more time in predicting
- Accuracy
  - Lazy method effectively uses a richer hypothesis space since it uses many local linear functions to form its implicit global approximation to the target function
  - Eager: must commit to a single hypothesis that covers the entire instance space

Lazy Learner: Instance-Based Methods

- Instance-based learning:
  - Store training examples and delay the processing ("lazy evaluation") until a new instance must be classified
- Typical approaches
  - *k*-nearest neighbor approach
    - Instances represented as points in a Euclidean space.
  - Case-based reasoning
    - Uses symbolic representations and knowledge-based inference

The *k*-Nearest Neighbor Algorithm

- All instances correspond to points in the n-D space
- The nearest neighbor are defined in terms of Euclidean distance, dist($\mathbf{X_1}$, $\mathbf{X_2}$)
- Target function could be discrete- or real- valued
- For discrete-valued, *k*-NN returns the most common value among the *k* training examples nearest to x_q



- k-NN for real-valued prediction for a given unknown tuple
  - Returns the mean values of the *k* nearest neighbors

Discussion on the *k*-NN Algorithm

- Categorical attributes
- Distance-weighted nearest neighbor algorithm
  - Weight the contribution of each of the k neighbors according to their distance to the query x_q
    - Give greater weight to closer neighbors

$$w \equiv \frac{1}{d(x_q, x_i)^2}$$

- Value of k? – min error rate
- Robust to noisy data by averaging k-nearest neighbors
- Curse of dimensionality: distance between neighbors could be dominated by irrelevant attributes
  - To overcome it, axes stretch or elimination of the least relevant attributes
- Performance – O(|D|)

Case-Based Reasoning (CBR)

- CBR: Uses a database of problem solutions to solve new problems
- Store symbolic description (tuples or cases)—not points in a Euclidean space
- Applications: Customer-service (product-related diagnosis), legal ruling
- Methodology
  - Instances represented by rich symbolic descriptions (e.g., function graphs)
  - Search for similar cases, multiple retrieved cases may be combined
  - Tight coupling between case retrieval, knowledge-based reasoning, and problem solving
- Challenges
  - Find a good similarity metric and suitable methods for combining solutions
  - Indexing based on syntactic similarity measure, and when failure, backtracking, and adapting to additional cases

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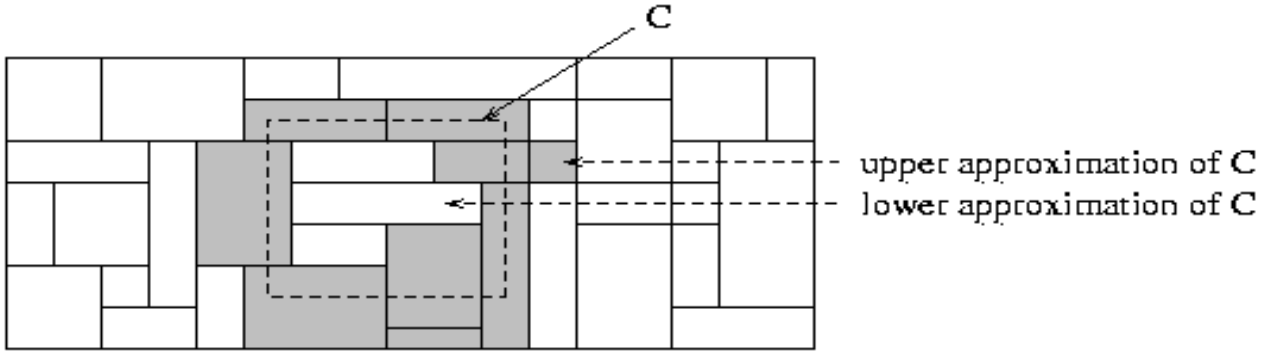
Genetic Algorithms (GA)

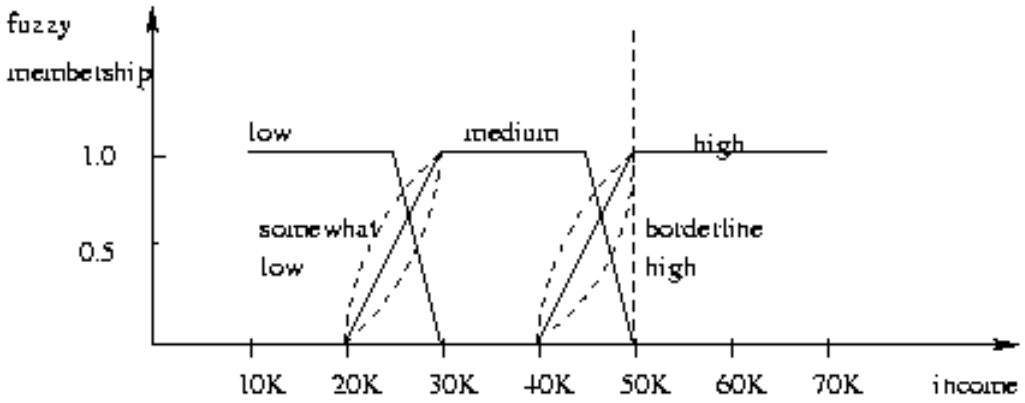
- Genetic Algorithm: based on an analogy to biological evolution
- An initial **population** is created consisting of randomly generated rules
  - Each rule is represented by a string of bits
  - E.g., if A_1 and $\neg A_2$ then C_2 can be encoded as 100
  - If an attribute has k > 2 values, k bits can be used
- Based on the notion of survival of the **fittest**, a new population is formed to consist of the fittest rules and their offsprings
- The fitness of a rule is represented by its *classification accuracy* on a set of training examples
- Offsprings are generated by *crossover* and *mutation*
- The process continues until a population P evolves *when each rule in P satisfies a prespecified threshold*
- Slow but easily parallelizable

Rough Set Approach

- Rough sets are used to **approximately or "roughly" define equivalent classes**
- A rough set for a given class C is approximated by two sets: a lower approximation (certain to be in C) and an upper approximation (cannot be described as not belonging to C)
- Finding the minimal subsets (**reducts**) of attributes for feature reduction is NP-hard but a **discernibility matrix** (which stores the differences between attribute values for each pair of data tuples) is used to reduce the computation intensity



Fuzzy Set Approaches



- Fuzzy logic uses truth values between 0.0 and 1.0 to represent the degree of membership (such as using fuzzy membership graph)
- Attribute values are converted to fuzzy values
  - e.g., income is mapped into the discrete categories {low, medium, high} with fuzzy values calculated
- For a given new sample, more than one fuzzy value may apply
- Each applicable rule contributes a vote for membership in the categories
- Typically, the truth values for each predicted category are summed, and these sums are combined

Summary

- Classification and prediction are two forms of data analysis that can be used to extract models describing important data classes or to predict future data trends.
- Effective and scalable methods have been developed for decision trees induction, Naive Bayesian classification, Bayesian belief network, rule-based classifier, Backpropagation, Support Vector Machine (SVM), associative classification, nearest neighbor classifiers, and case-based reasoning, and other classification methods such as genetic algorithms, rough set and fuzzy set approaches.