

# Classification: Naive Bayes Classifiers

Ninghao Liu

University of Georgia

March 14, 2023

# Naive Bayes Classifiers: An Example

<i>Tid</i>	Refund	Marital Status	Taxable Income	Evade
1	Yes	Single	125K	No
2	No	Married	100K	No
3	No	Single	70K	No
4	Yes	Married	120K	No
5	No	Divorced	95K	Yes
6	No	Married	60K	No
7	Yes	Divorced	220K	No
8	No	Single	85K	Yes
9	No	Married	75K	No
10	No	Single	90K	Yes

How to predict the label given a new instance?

$$\mathbf{x} : [\text{Refund} = \text{No}, \text{Married}, \text{Income} = 120\text{K}] \quad (1)$$

# Naive Bayes Classifiers

Approach the classification problem from the probabilistic perspective.

How to formally define the problem?

- Given an instance  $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D]$ , choose  $y$  that maximizes

$$P(y|x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D).$$

- A model based on *posterior probability*.

Can we estimate  $P(y|x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D)$  directly from data?

# Naive Bayes Classifiers: Bayes theorem

- Approach:
  - Compute  $P(y|x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D)$  using the **Bayes theorem**

$$P(y|x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D) = \frac{P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D|y)P(y)}{P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D)}$$

for each choice of  $y \in \{1, 2, \dots, C\}$ .

- Choose the  $y$  that maximizes  $P(y|x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D)$ .
- Equivalent to choosing value of  $y$  that maximizes

$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D|y)P(y) \text{ or } P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D, y)$$

- How to compute  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D|y)$ ?

# Naive Bayes Classifiers: Bayes theorem

**Question:** Can we directly compute  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D | y)$ ?

# Naive Bayes Classifiers

Compute  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D|y)$  for an arbitrary instance  $x$ .

- Think about a binary classification scenario, where  $D = 3$  and each feature  $x_j$  has 2 possible values.
  - What type of intermediate data to store?
  - How large is the intermediate data?

# Naive Bayes Classifiers: Challenges

Challenges for computing  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D | y)$ .

- Think about a binary classification scenario, where  $D = 3$  and each feature  $x_j$  has 2 possible values.
  - What type of intermediate data to store?
  - How large is the intermediate data?
- What about when  $D = 100$  and each feature  $x_j$  has 16 possible values?
  - What is the challenge?

# Naive Bayes Classifiers: Conditional Independence

Definition: **Conditional Independence**.

Features in  $\mathbf{x}$  are mutually independent, conditional on  $y$ . That is,

$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D | y) = P(x_1 | y) \cdot P(x_2 | y) \cdot \dots \cdot P(x_D | y).$$



# Naive Bayes Classifiers: Conditional Independence

Definition: **Conditional Independence.**

Features in  $\mathbf{x}$  are mutually independent, conditional on  $y$ . That is,

$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D | y) = P(x_1 | y) \cdot P(x_2 | y) \cdot \dots \cdot P(x_D | y).$$

- Example: Arm length and reading skills
  - Young child has shorter arm length and limited reading skills, compared to adults
  - If age is fixed, no apparent relationship between arm length and reading skills
  - Arm length and reading skills are conditionally independent given age

# Naive Bayes Classifiers: Framework

- 1 Compute  $P(x_j|y)$  and  $P(y)$  for all cases given the training data.
- 2 Assume conditional independence:

$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D|y) = P(x_1|y) \cdot P(x_2|y) \cdot \dots \cdot P(x_D|y).$$

- 3 A new instance  $\mathbf{x}$  is classified to  $y_c$  if

$$P(y_c) \cdot \prod_{j=1}^D P(x_j|y_c)$$

is maximal.

# Naive Bayes Classifiers: Computation Cost

Compute  $P(x_1|y) \cdot P(x_2|y) \cdot \dots \cdot P(x_D|y)$ .

- Think about a binary classification scenario, where  $D = 3$  and each feature  $x_j$  has 2 possible values.
  - What type of intermediate data to store?
  - How large is the intermediate data?
- What about when  $D = 100$  and each feature  $x_j$  has 16 possible values?

# Naive Bayes Classifiers: An Example

Tid	Refund	Marital Status	Taxable Income	Evade
1	Yes	Single	125K	No
2	No	Married	100K	No
3	No	Single	70K	No
4	Yes	Married	120K	No
5	No	Divorced	95K	Yes
6	No	Married	60K	No
7	Yes	Divorced	220K	No
8	No	Single	85K	Yes
9	No	Married	75K	No
10	No	Single	90K	Yes

- Class:  $P(Y) = N_c / N$

– e.g.,  $P(\text{No}) = 7/10$ ,  
 $P(\text{Yes}) = 3/10$

Let's  
work out  
all  
 $P(X|Y)$

- For discrete attributes:

$$P(X_i | Y_k) = |X_{ik}| / N_c$$

- where  $|X_{ik}|$  is number of instances having attribute value  $X_i$  and belonging to class  $Y_k$
- Examples:

$$P(\text{Status}=\text{Married} | \text{No}) = 4/7$$

$$P(\text{Refund}=\text{Yes} | \text{Yes})=0$$

# Naive Bayes Classifiers: An Example

- For continuous attributes:
  - **Discretization:** Partition the range into bins:
    - Replace continuous value with bin value
  - **Probability density estimation:**
    - Assume an attribute follows a normal distribution
    - Use data to estimate parameters of distribution (e.g., mean and standard deviation)
    - Once probability distribution is known, use it to estimate the conditional probability  $P(X_i | Y)$

# Naive Bayes Classifiers: An Example

Tid	Refund	Marital Status	Taxable Income	Evade
1	Yes	Single	125K	No
2	No	Married	100K	No
3	No	Single	70K	No
4	Yes	Married	120K	No
5	No	Divorced	95K	Yes
6	No	Married	60K	No
7	Yes	Divorced	220K	No
8	No	Single	85K	Yes
9	No	Married	75K	No
10	No	Single	90K	Yes

- Normal distribution:

$$P(X_i | Y_j) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{ij}^2}} e^{-\frac{(X_i - \mu_{ij})^2}{2\sigma_{ij}^2}}$$

– One for each  $(X_i, Y_i)$  pair

- For (Income, Class=No):

– If Class=No

- sample mean = 110
- sample variance = 2975

$$P(\text{Income} = 120 | \text{No}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(54.54)}} e^{-\frac{(120-110)^2}{2(2975)}} = 0.0072$$

# Naive Bayes Classifiers: An Example

Given a Test Record:

$$X = (\text{Refund} = \text{No}, \text{Married}, \text{Income} = 120\text{K})$$

naive Bayes Classifier:

$P(\text{Refund}=\text{Yes}|\text{No}) = 3/7$   
 $P(\text{Refund}=\text{No}|\text{No}) = 4/7$   
 $P(\text{Refund}=\text{Yes}|\text{Yes}) = 0$   
 $P(\text{Refund}=\text{No}|\text{Yes}) = 1$   
 $P(\text{Marital Status}=\text{Single}|\text{No}) = 2/7$   
 $P(\text{Marital Status}=\text{Divorced}|\text{No}) = 1/7$   
 $P(\text{Marital Status}=\text{Married}|\text{No}) = 4/7$   
 $P(\text{Marital Status}=\text{Single}|\text{Yes}) = 2/3$   
 $P(\text{Marital Status}=\text{Divorced}|\text{Yes}) = 1/3$   
 $P(\text{Marital Status}=\text{Married}|\text{Yes}) = 0$

For taxable income:

If class=No:    sample mean=110  
                    sample variance=2975  
If class=Yes:    sample mean=90  
                    sample variance=25

- $P(X|\text{Class}=\text{No}) = P(\text{Refund}=\text{No}|\text{Class}=\text{No})$   
                          $\times P(\text{Married}|\text{Class}=\text{No})$   
                          $\times P(\text{Income}=120\text{K}|\text{Class}=\text{No})$   
                          $= 4/7 \times 4/7 \times 0.0072 = 0.0024$
- $P(X|\text{Class}=\text{Yes}) = P(\text{Refund}=\text{No}|\text{Class}=\text{Yes})$   
                          $\times P(\text{Married}|\text{Class}=\text{Yes})$   
                          $\times P(\text{Income}=120\text{K}|\text{Class}=\text{Yes})$   
                          $= 1 \times 0 \times 1.2 \times 10^{-9} = 0$

Since  $P(X|\text{No})P(\text{No}) > P(X|\text{Yes})P(\text{Yes})$

Therefore  $P(\text{No}|X) > P(\text{Yes}|X)$   
 $\Rightarrow \text{Class} = \text{No}$