Download from finelybook www.finelybook.com to give each label a weight equal to its *support* (i.e., the number of instances with that target label). To do this, simply set average="weighted" in the preceding code.<sup>4</sup>

## **Multioutput Classification**

The last type of classification task we are going to discuss here is called *multioutput-multiclass classification* (or simply *multioutput classification*). It is simply a generalization of multilabel classification where each label can be multiclass (i.e., it can have more than two possible values).

To illustrate this, let's build a system that removes noise from images. It will take as input a noisy digit image, and it will (hopefully) output a clean digit image, represented as an array of pixel intensities, just like the MNIST images. Notice that the classifier's output is multilabel (one label per pixel) and each label can have multiple values (pixel intensity ranges from 0 to 255). It is thus an example of a multioutput classification system.



The line between classification and regression is sometimes blurry, such as in this example. Arguably, predicting pixel intensity is more akin to regression than to classification. Moreover, multioutput systems are not limited to classification tasks; you could even have a system that outputs multiple labels per instance, including both class labels and value labels.

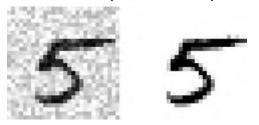
Let's start by creating the training and test sets by taking the MNIST images and adding noise to their pixel intensities using NumPy's randint() function. The target images will be the original images:

```
noise = rnd.randint(0, 100, (len(X_train), 784))
noise = rnd.randint(0, 100, (len(X_test), 784))
X_train_mod = X_train + noise
X_test_mod = X_test + noise
y_train_mod = X_train
y_test_mod = X_test
```

Let's take a peek at an image from the test set (yes, we're snooping on the test data, so you should be frowning right now):

<sup>4</sup> Scikit-Learn offers a few other averaging options and multilabel classifier metrics; see the documentation for more details.

Download from finelybook www.finelybook.com



On the left is the noisy input image, and on the right is the clean target image. Now let's train the classifier and make it clean this image:

```
knn_clf.fit(X_train_mod, y_train_mod)
clean_digit = knn_clf.predict([X_test_mod[some_index]])
plot_digit(clean_digit)
```



Looks close enough to the target! This concludes our tour of classification. Hopefully you should now know how to select good metrics for classification tasks, pick the appropriate precision/recall tradeoff, compare classifiers, and more generally build good classification systems for a variety of tasks.

## **Exercises**

- 1. Try to build a classifier for the MNIST dataset that achieves over 97% accuracy on the test set. Hint: the KNeighborsClassifier works quite well for this task; you just need to find good hyperparameter values (try a grid search on the weights and n\_neighbors hyperparameters).
- 2. Write a function that can shift an MNIST image in any direction (left, right, up, or down) by one pixel.<sup>5</sup> Then, for each image in the training set, create four shifted copies (one per direction) and add them to the training set. Finally, train your best model on this expanded training set and measure its accuracy on the test set. You should observe that your model performs even better now! This technique of

<sup>5</sup> You can use the shift() function from the scipy.ndimage.interpolation module. For example, shift(image, [2, 1], cval=0) shifts the image 2 pixels down and 1 pixel to the right.