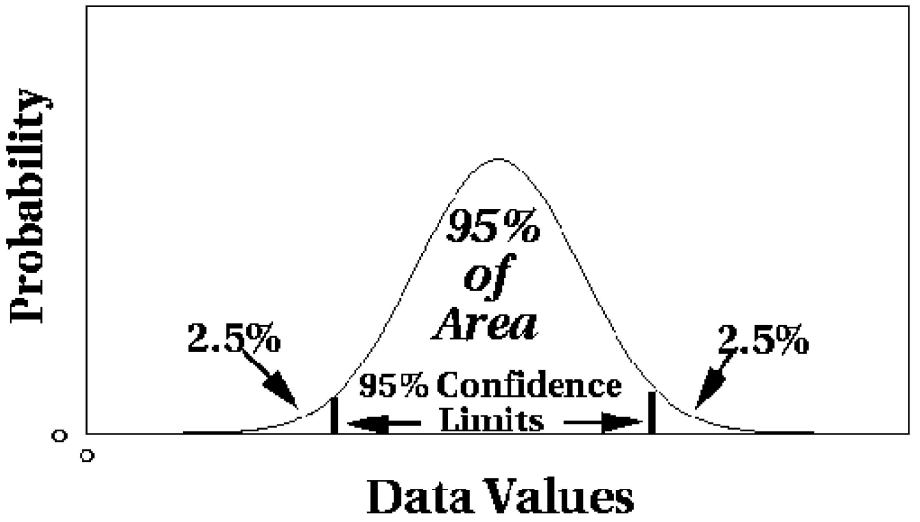
Chapter 7. Cluster Analysis

1. What is Cluster Analysis?
2. Types of Data in Cluster Analysis
3. A Categorization of Major Clustering Methods
4. Partitioning Methods
5. Hierarchical Methods
6. Density-Based Methods
7. Clustering High-Dimensional Data
8. Constraint-Based Clustering
9. Outlier Analysis
10. Summary

What Is Outlier Discovery?

- What are outliers?
  - The set of objects are considerably dissimilar from the remainder of the data
  - Example: Sports: Michael Jordon, Wayne Gretzky, ...
- Problem: Define and find outliers in large data sets
- Applications:
  - Credit card fraud detection
  - Telecom fraud detection
  - Customer segmentation
  - Medical analysis

Outlier Discovery: Statistical Approaches



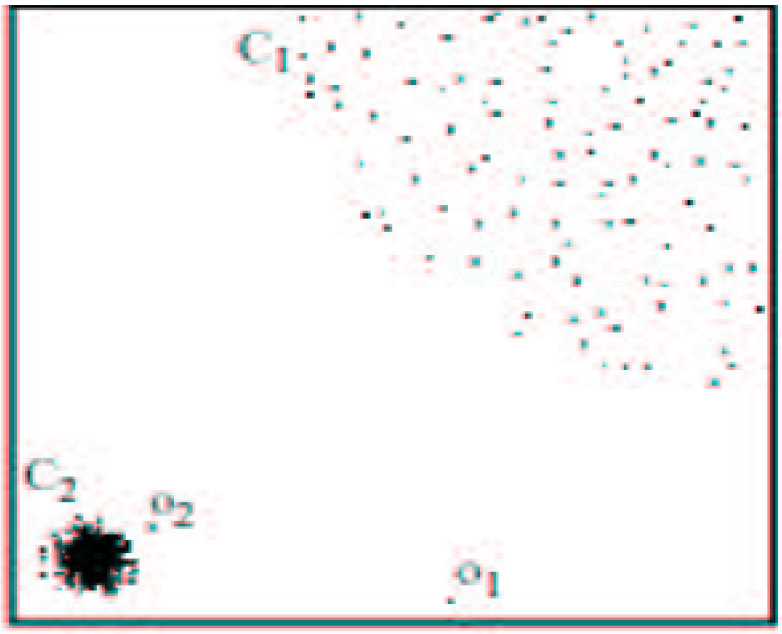
- Assume a model underlying distribution that generates data set (e.g. normal distribution)
- Use discordancy tests depending on
  - data distribution
  - distribution parameter (e.g., mean, variance)
  - number of expected outliers
- Drawbacks
  - most tests are for a *single attribute*
  - In many cases, data distribution may not be known

Outlier Discovery: Distance-Based Approach

- Introduced to counter the main limitations imposed by statistical methods
  - We need multi-dimensional analysis without knowing data distribution
- Distance-based outlier: A *DB(p, D)-outlier* is an object O in a dataset T such that at least a fraction ***p*** of the objects in T lies at a distance greater than ***D*** from O
- Algorithms for mining distance-based outliers
  - Index-based algorithm
  - Nested-loop algorithm
  - Cell-based algorithm

Density-Based Local Outlier Detection

- Distance-based outlier detection is based on global distance distribution
- It encounters difficulties to identify outliers *if data is not uniformly distributed*
- Ex. C_1 contains 400 loosely distributed points, C_2 has 100 tightly condensed points, 2 outlier points o_1, o_2
- Distance-based method cannot identify o_2 as an outlier
- Need the concept of *a local outlier*



- Local outlier factor (LOF)
  - Assume outlier is not crisp
  - Each point has a LOF

Chapter 7. Cluster Analysis

1. What is Cluster Analysis?
2. Types of Data in Cluster Analysis
3. A Categorization of Major Clustering Methods
4. Partitioning Methods
5. Hierarchical Methods
6. Density-Based Methods
7. Clustering High-Dimensional Data
8. Constraint-Based Clustering
9. Outlier Analysis
10. Summary

Summary

- Cluster analysis groups objects based on their similarity and has wide applications
- Measure of similarity can be computed for various types of data
- Clustering algorithms can be categorized into partitioning methods, hierarchical methods, density-based methods, grid-based methods, and model-based methods
- Outlier detection and analysis are very useful for fraud detection, etc. and can be performed by statistical, distance-based or deviation-based approaches
- There are still lots of research issues on cluster analysis

Problems and Challenges

- Considerable progress has been made in scalable clustering methods
  - Partitioning: k-means, k-medoids, CLARANS
  - Hierarchical: BIRCH, ROCK, CHAMELEON
  - Density-based: DBSCAN, OPTICS, DenClue
  - Constraint-based: COD, constrained-clustering
- Current clustering techniques do not address all the requirements adequately, still an active area of research