Classification

CS145

Fall 2015

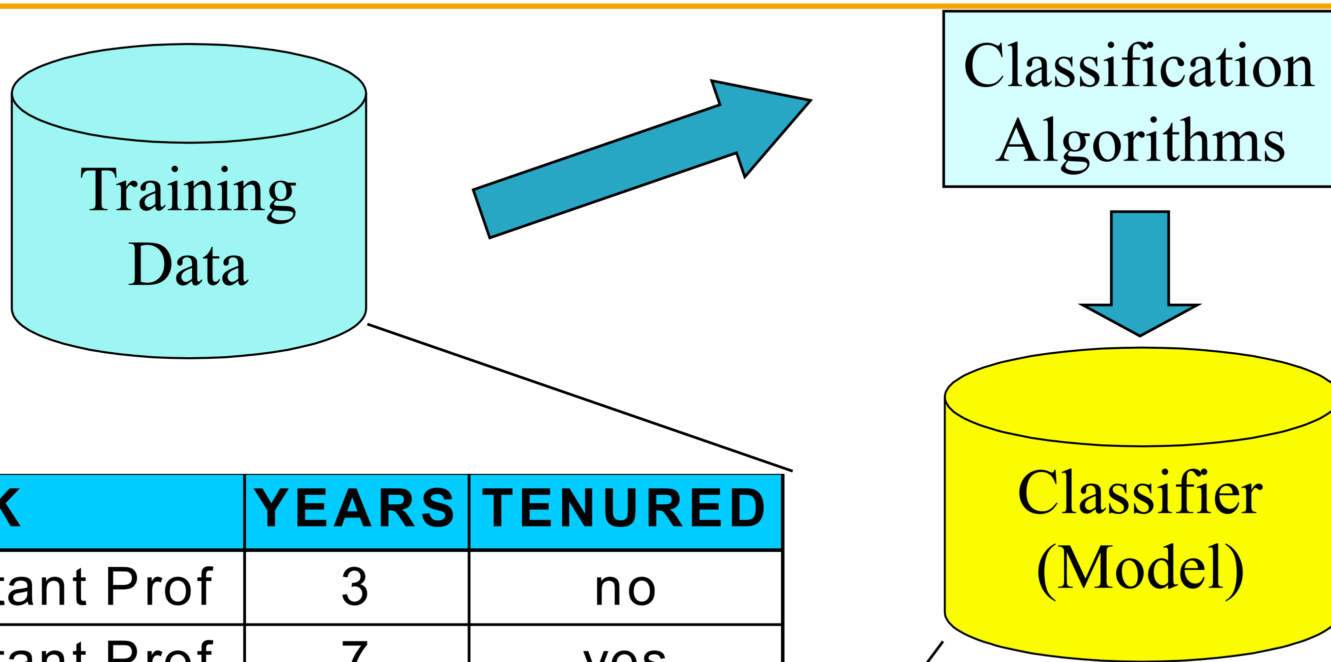
Classification vs. Prediction

- 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
- Typical Applications
  - credit approval
  - target marketing
  - medical diagnosis
  - treatment effectiveness analysis

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
    - If the accuracy is acceptable, use the model to classify data tuples whose class labels are not known

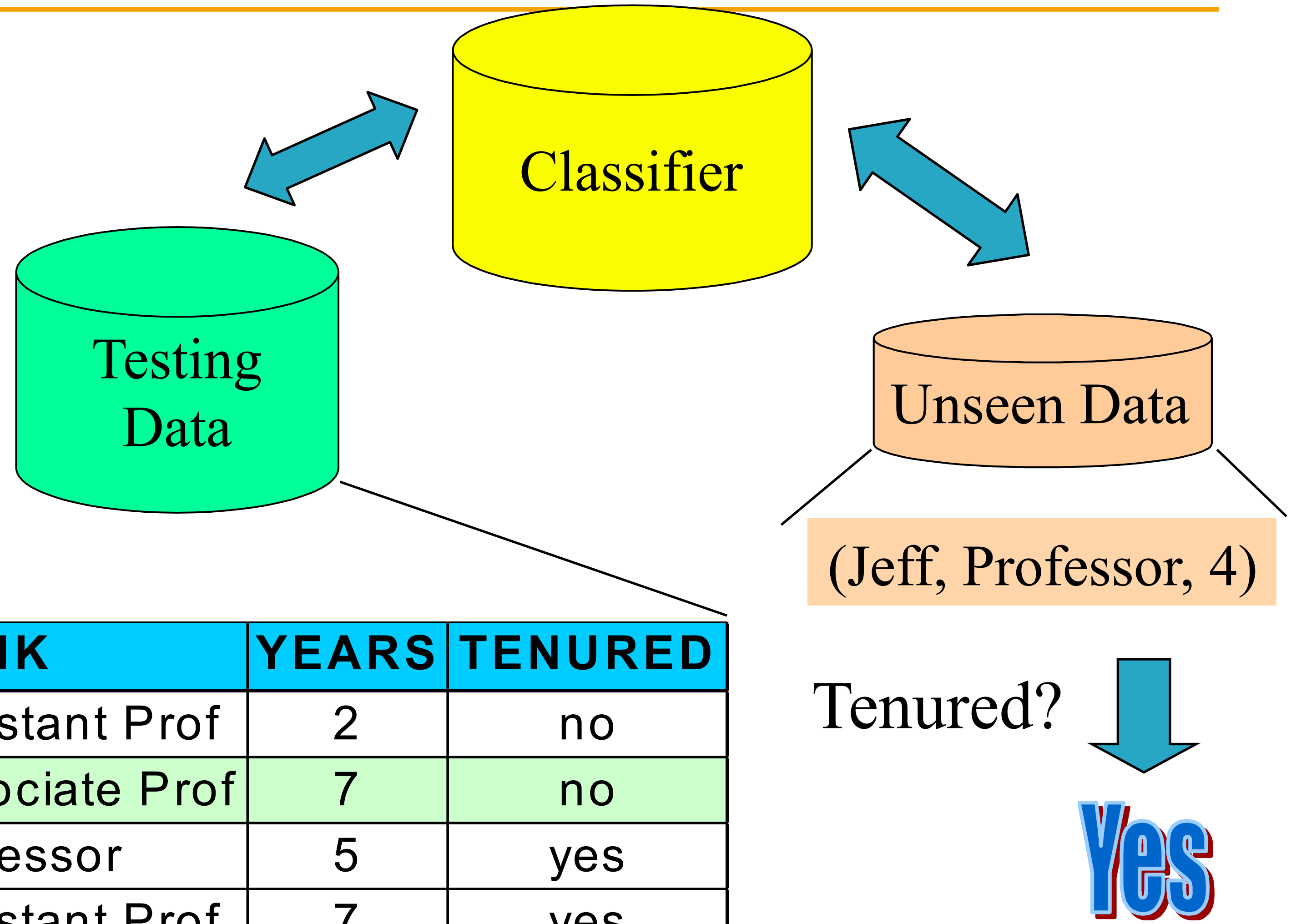
Classification Process (1): Model Construction



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

IF rank = ‘professor’
OR years > 6
THEN tenured = ‘yes’

Classification Process (2): Use 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

Major Classification Models

- Classification by decision tree induction
- Bayesian Classification
- Neural Networks
- Support Vector Machines (SVM)
- Classification Based on Associations
- Other Classification Methods
  - KNN
  - Boosting
  - Bagging
  - …

Evaluating Classification Methods

- Predictive accuracy
- Speed and scalability
  - time to construct the model
  - time to use the model
- Robustness
  - handling noise and missing values
- Scalability
  - efficiency in disk-resident databases
- Interpretability:
  - understanding and insight provided by the model
- Goodness of rules
  - decision tree size
  - compactness of classification rules

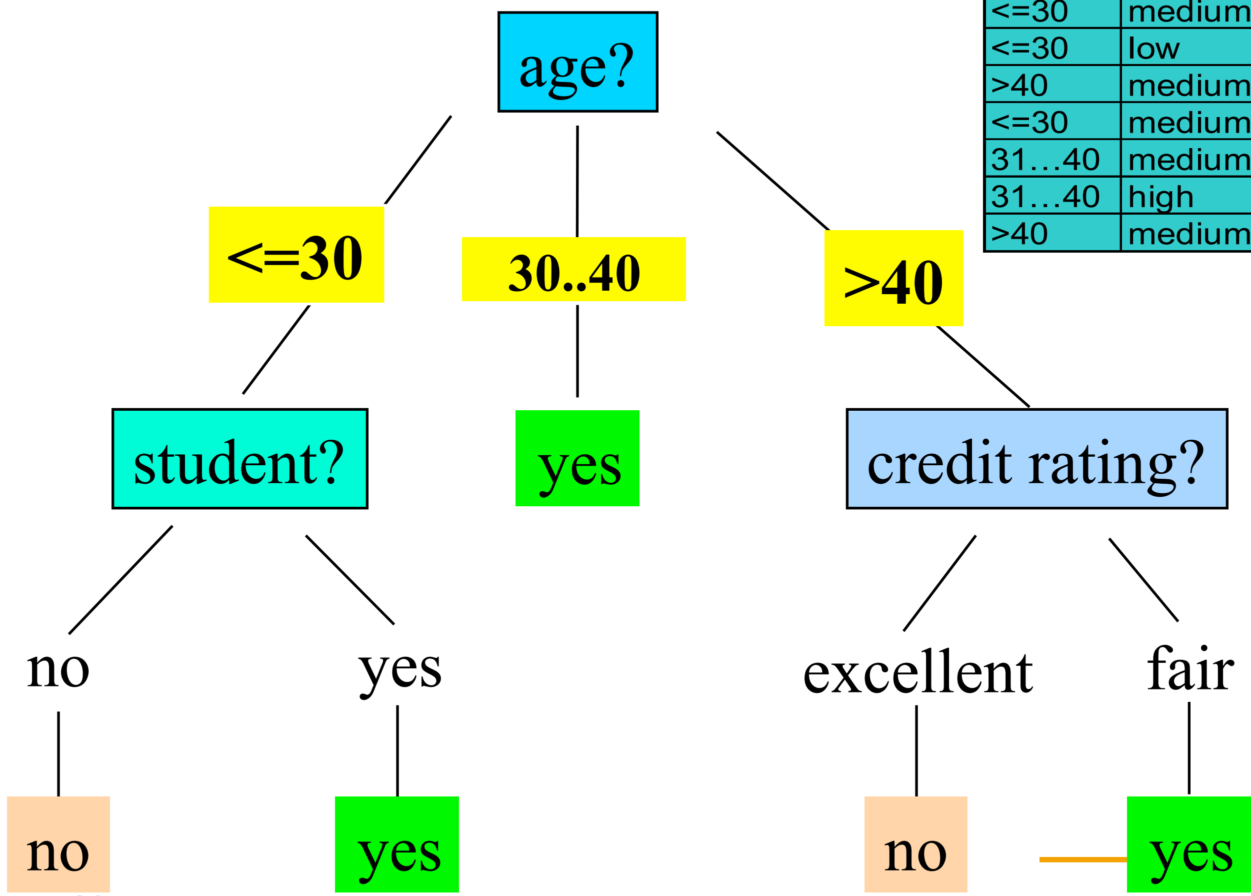
Decision Tree

Training Dataset

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*"

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



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
- S contains s_i tuples of class C_i for $i = \{1, \ldots, m\}$
- information measures info required to classify any arbitrary tuple

$$I(s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_m) = -\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{s_i}{s} \log_2 \frac{s_i}{s}$$

- entropy of attribute A with values $\{a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_v\}$

$$E(A) = \sum_{j=1}^{v} \frac{s_{1j} + \ldots + s_{mj}}{s} I(s_{1j}, \ldots, s_{mj})$$

- information gained by branching on attribute A

$$Gain(A) = I(s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_m) - E(A)$$

Attribute Selection by Information Gain Computation

- Class P: buys_computer = "yes"
- Class N: buys_computer = "no"
- I(p, n) = I(9, 5) =0.940
- Compute the entropy for *age*:

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

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

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

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

$$Gain(age) = I(p,n) - E(age) = 0.246$$

Similarly,

$$Gain(income) = 0.029$$

$$Gain(student) = 0.151$$

$$Gain(credit\_rating) = 0.048$$

Natural Bias in The Information Gain Measure

- Favor attributes with many values
- An extreme example
  - Attribute "income" might have the highest information gain
  - A very broad decision tree of depth one
  - Inapplicable to any future data

Alternative Measures

- Gain ratio: penalize attributes like income by incorporating split information
  - $SplitInformation(S, A) \equiv -\sum_{i=1}^{c} \frac{|S_i|}{|S|} \log_2 \frac{|S_i|}{|S|}$
    - Split information is sensitive to how broadly and uniformly the attribute splits the data
  - $GainRatio(S, A) \equiv \frac{Gain(S, A)}{SplitInformation(S, A)}$
- Gain ratio can be undefined or very large
  - Only test attributes with above average Gain

Other Attribute Selection Measures

- Gini index (CART, IBM IntelligentMiner)
  - All attributes are assumed continuous-valued
  - Assume there exist several possible split values for each attribute
  - May need other tools, such as clustering, to get the possible split values
  - Can be modified for categorical attributes

Gini Index (IBM IntelligentMiner)

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

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

where p_j is the relative frequency of class j in T.

- If a data set T is split into two subsets T_1 and T_2 with sizes N_1 and N_2 respectively, the *gini* index of the split data contains examples from n classes, the *gini* index $gini(T)$ is defined as

$$gini_{split}(T) = \frac{N_1}{N} gini(T_1) + \frac{N_2}{N} gini(T_2)$$

- The attribute provides the smallest $gini_{split}(T)$ is chosen to split the node (*need to enumerate all possible splitting points for each attribute*).

Extracting Classification Rules from Trees

- Represent the knowledge in the form of IF-THEN rules
- 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 node holds the class prediction
- Rules are easier for humans to understand
- Example

IF *age* = "<=30" AND *student* = "*no*" THEN *buys_computer* = "*no*"

IF *age* = "<=30" AND *student* = "*yes*" THEN *buys_computer* = "*yes*"

IF *age* = "31…40" THEN *buys_computer* = "*yes*"

IF *age* = ">40" AND *credit_rating* = "*excellent*" THEN *buys_computer* = "*yes*"

IF *age* = ">40" AND *credit_rating* = "*fair*" THEN *buys_computer* = "*no*"

Avoid Overfitting in Classification

- 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"

Approaches to Determine the Final Tree Size

- Separate training (2/3) and testing (1/3) sets
- Use cross validation, e.g., 10-fold cross validation
- Use all the data for training
  - but apply a statistical test (e.g., chi-square) to estimate whether expanding or pruning a node may improve the entire distribution
- Use minimum description length (MDL) principle
  - halting growth of the tree when the encoding is minimized

Minimum Description Length

- The ideal MDL select the model with the shortest effective description that minimizes the sum of
  - The length, in bits, of an effective description of the model; and
  - The length, in bits, of an effective description of the data when encoded with help of the model

$$H_0 = \min_{H \in \aleph} \{ K(D \mid H) + K(H) \}$$