CS685: Data Mining What is (not) Data Mining

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- It is in the confluence of
 - Machine learning
 - Statistics
 - Databases
 - Information retrieval
 - Visualization techniques

Data Mining Challenges I

- Scalability
- High dimensionality
- Heterogeneous and complex data
 - Web
 - Unstructured text
 - Graph
- Distributed data
- Data ownership and privacy
 - How to access knowledge without violating privacy
- Classification
 - Predicting the class of a data object
- Clustering
 - Finding groups in data
- Association
 - Finding co-occurring and related itemsets

Data Mining Challenges II

- Visualization
 - Facilitating human discovery of patterns
- Summarization
 - Succinctly describing a group
- Anomaly detection
 - Identifying abnormal behavior
- Estimation
 - Predicting values of a data object
- Link analysis
 - Finding relationships among data objects

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- Conclusion was one should not inform people that they have ESP

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- Deductions
 - A person stays in hotel for 10 days
 - Each day, 10^7 people stay in a hotel

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- Expected number of suspicions, i.e., probability that any pair of people meet twice on any pair of days is 2.5×10^5
 - $5 \times 10^{-13} \times 5 \times 10^{17}$

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- She finds out that since vanilla is the most popular favor, ordering vanilla induces a significantly longer waiting time
- Car stalls when the man waits longer and not otherwise

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- Moral: When deducting rules, look at correct attributes, i.e., those that explain the phenomenon