



الجامعة السورية الخاصة  
SYRIAN PRIVATE UNIVERSITY

المحاضرة السابعة

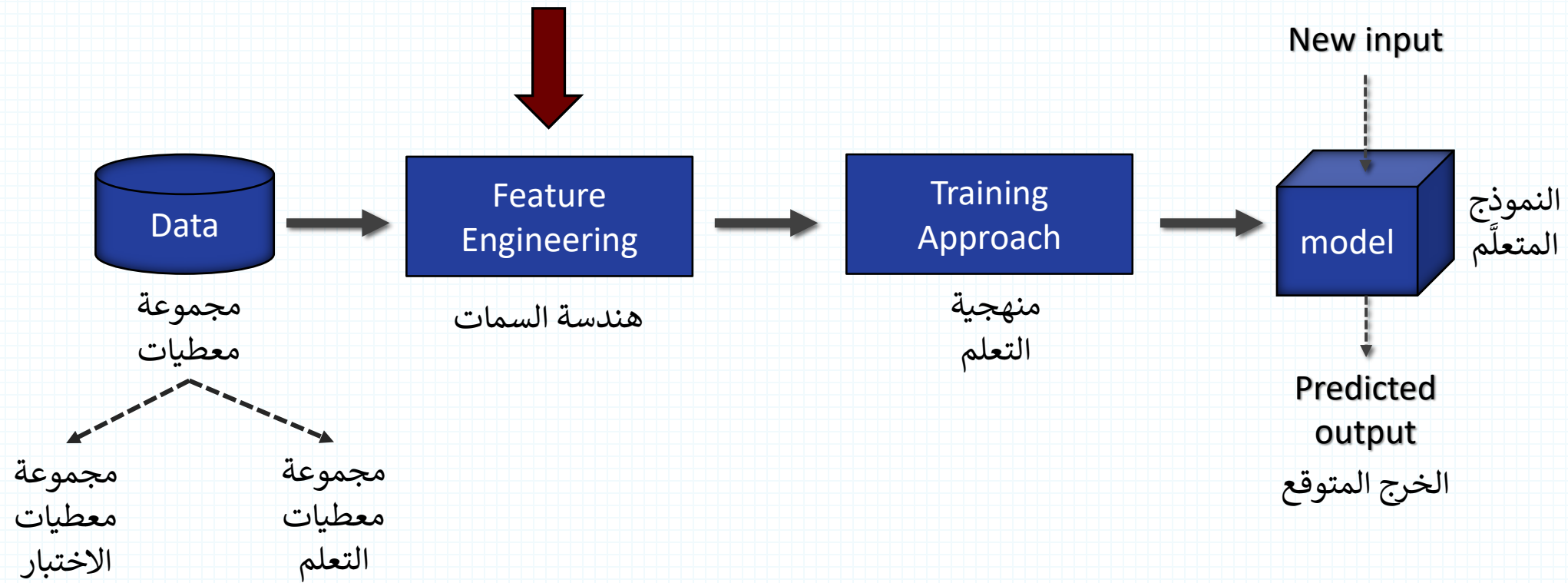
كلية الهندسة المعلوماتية

تعلم الآلة

# هندسة السمات Feature Engineering

د. رياض سنبل

# ML Pipeline

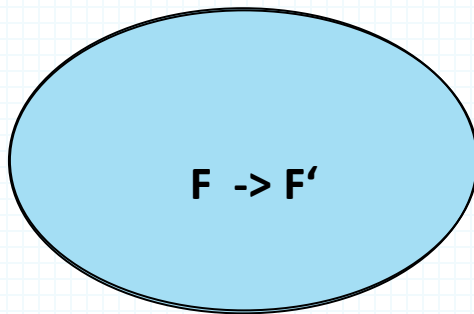


# Feature ( Preprocessing vs Selection vs Extraction)

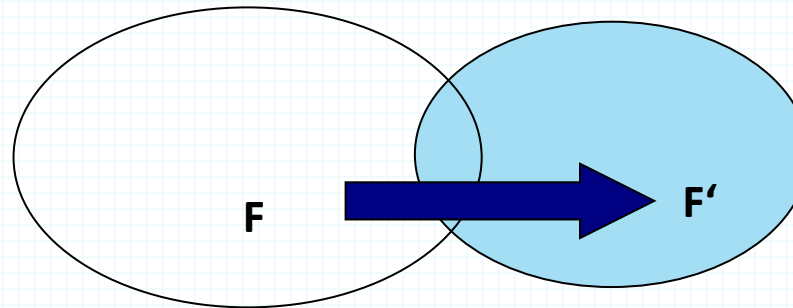
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- **Feature Preprocessing:** Clean, normalize, transform features the values of specific feature using a defined formula.
- **Feature extraction:** Creates new features (dimensions) defined as functions over all features
- **Feature selection:** Chooses subset of features

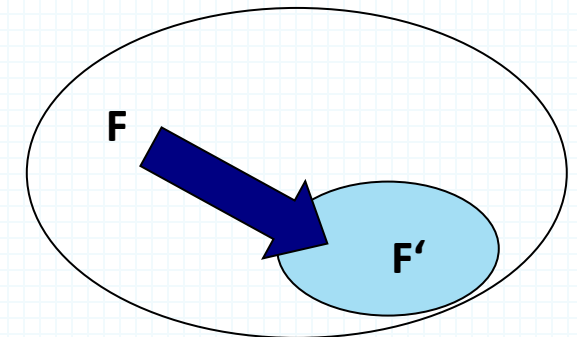
*Feature Preprocessing*



*Feature extraction*



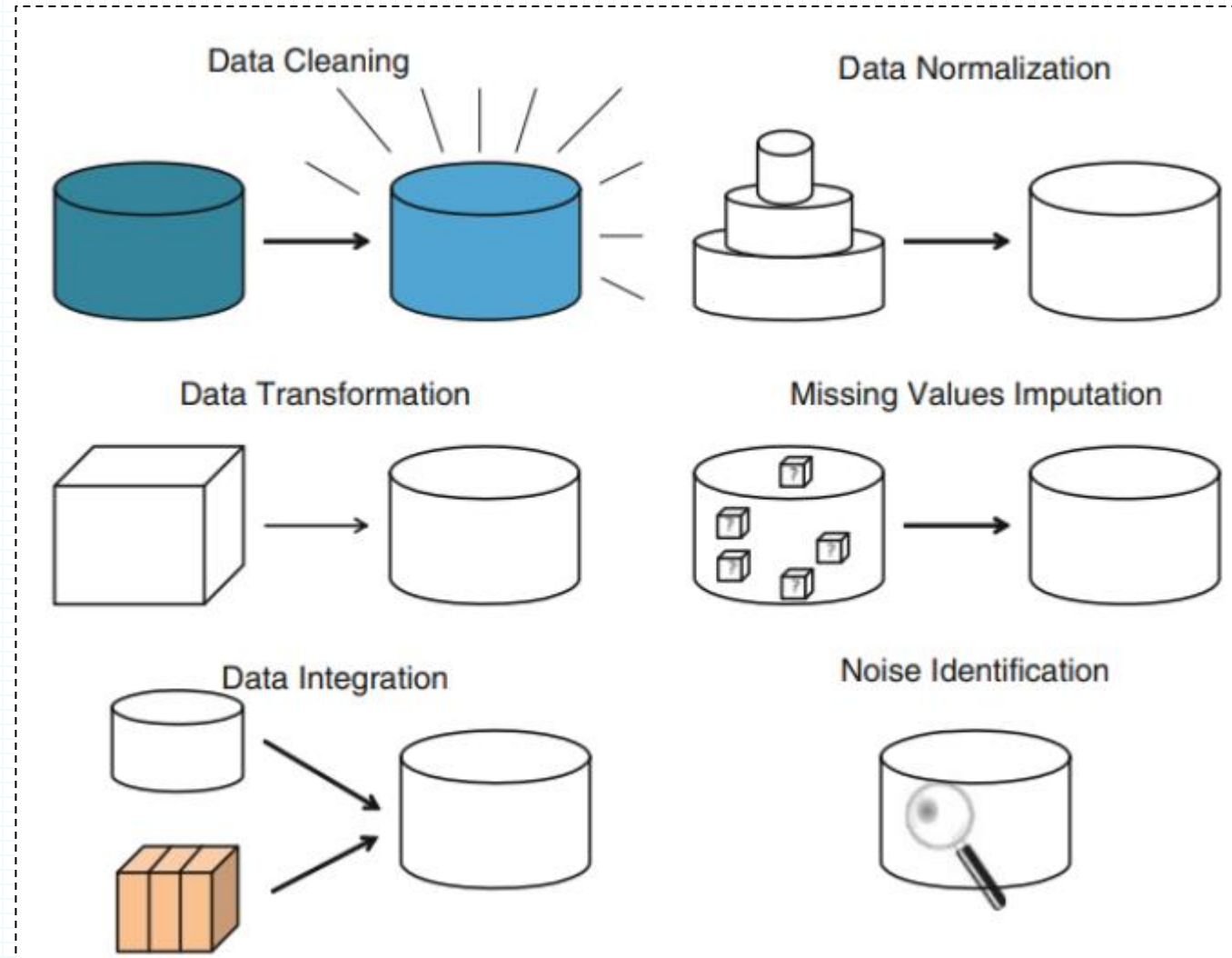
*Feature selection*



# Feature Preprocessing

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# Feature Preprocessing Tasks



# Features Transformation

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Numeric Feature => Binary Feature

Length of text + [ 40 ] => { 0, 1 }

Single **threshold**

Numeric Feature => Categorical Feature

Length of text + [ 20, 40 ] => { short or medium or long }

Set of **thresholds**

Categorical Feature => Binary Features

{ short or medium or long } => [ 1, 0, 0 ] or [ 0, 1, 0 ] or [ 0, 0, 1 ]

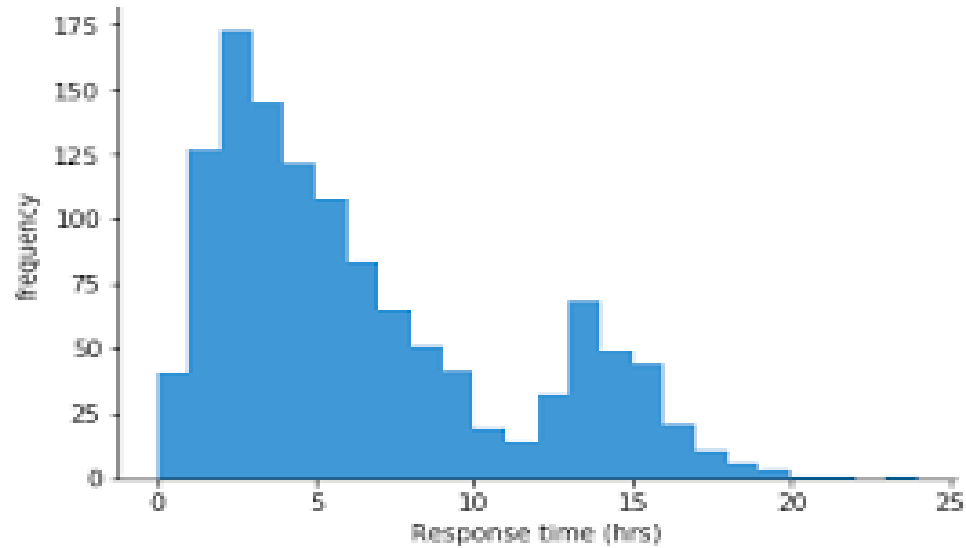
One-hot encoding

Binary Feature => Numeric Feature

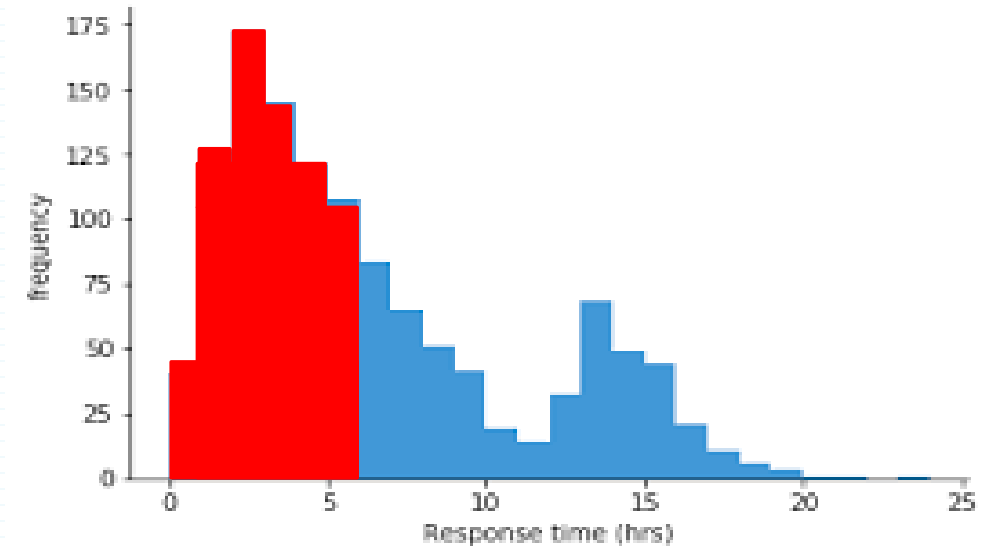
{ 0, 1 } => { 0, 1 }

...

# Which threshold is better?



Unsupervised



Supervised

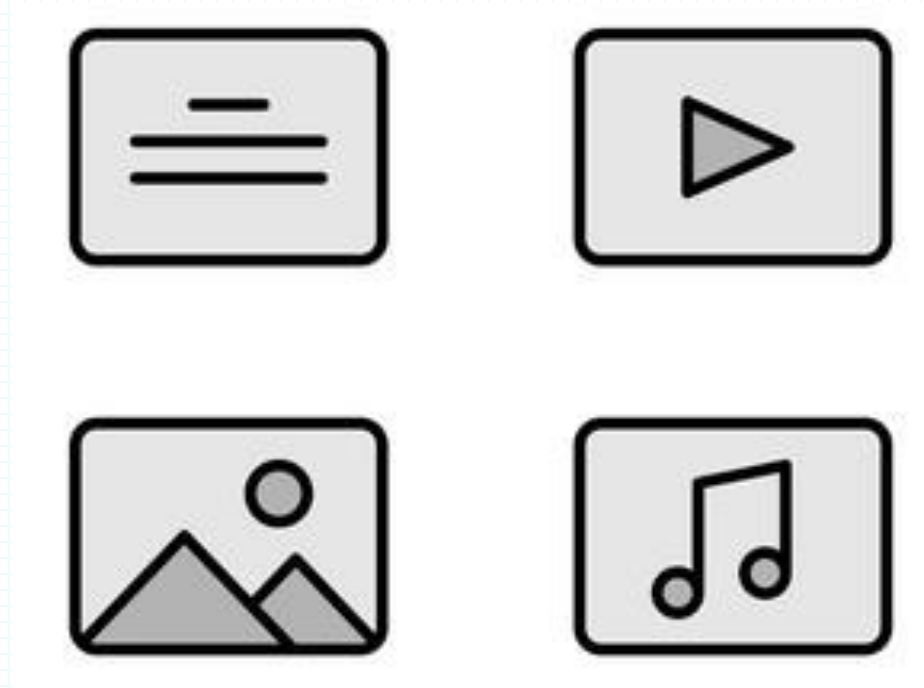
# Feature Extraction

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# Feature Extraction

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- Feature extraction is a process in which you take raw data, often in the form of complex and high-dimensional variables, and transform it into a reduced and more manageable set of features.



# Feature Extraction: SMS Spam

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- SMS Message (arbitrary text) -> 5 dimensional array of binary features
  - 1 if message is longer than 40 chars, 0 otherwise
  - 1 if message contains a digit, 0 otherwise
  - 1 if message contains word 'call', 0 otherwise
  - 1 if message contains word 'to', 0 otherwise
  - 1 if message contains word 'your', 0 otherwise

“SIX chances to win CASH! From 100 to 20,000 pounds txt> CSH11 and send to 87575. Cost 150p/day, 6days, 16+ TsandCs apply Reply HL 4 info”

Long?	HasDigit?	ContainsWord(Call)	ContainsWord(to)	ContainsWord(your)

# Possible Features

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## Binary Features

- ContainsWord(call)?
- IsLongSMSMessage?
- Contains(\*#)?
- ContainsPunctuation?

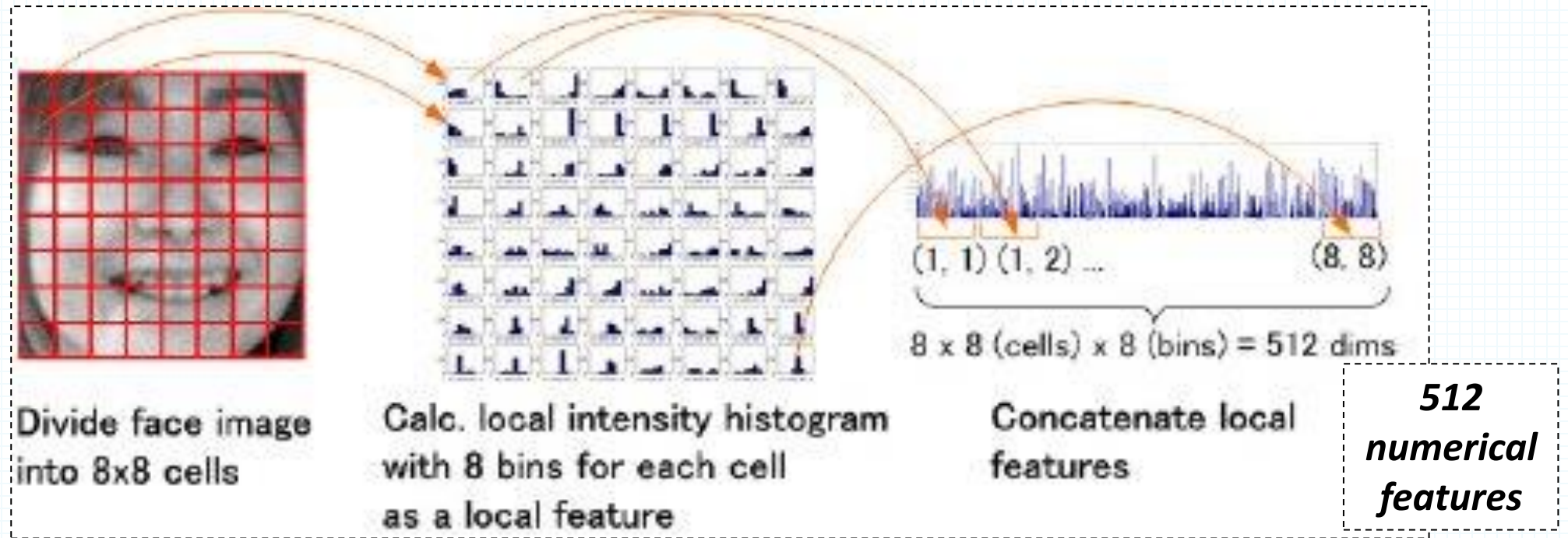
## Categorical Features

- FirstWordPOS -> { Verb, Noun, Other }
- MessageLength -> { Short, Medium, Long, VeryLong }
- TokenType -> { Number, URL, Word, Phone#, Unknown }
- GrammarAnalysis -> { Fragment, SimpleSentence, ComplexSentence }

## Numeric Features

- CountOfWord(call)
- MessageLength
- FirstNumberInMessage
- WritingGradeLevel

# Feature Engineering: Smile Detection



# Feature Selection

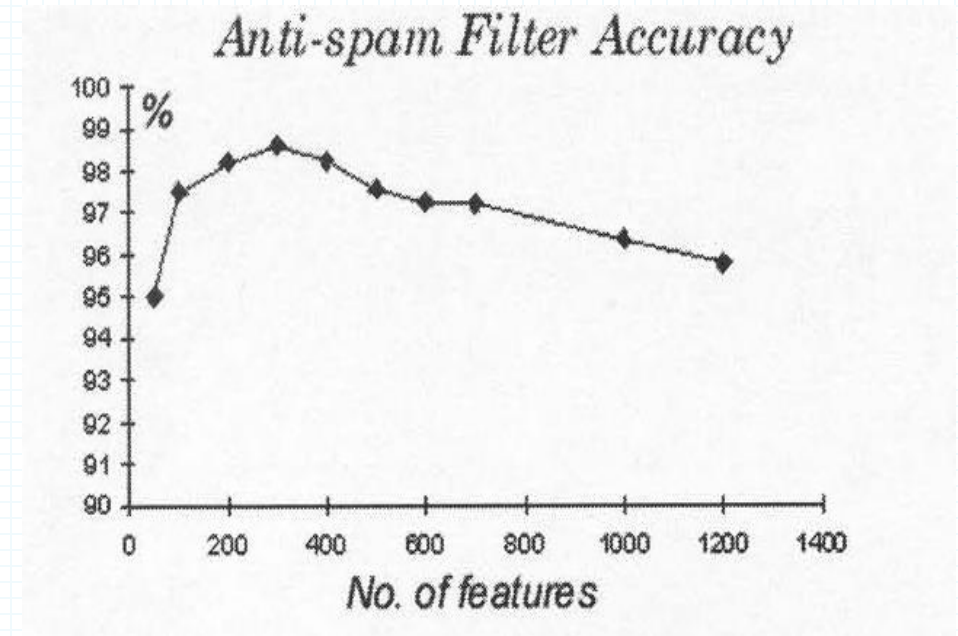
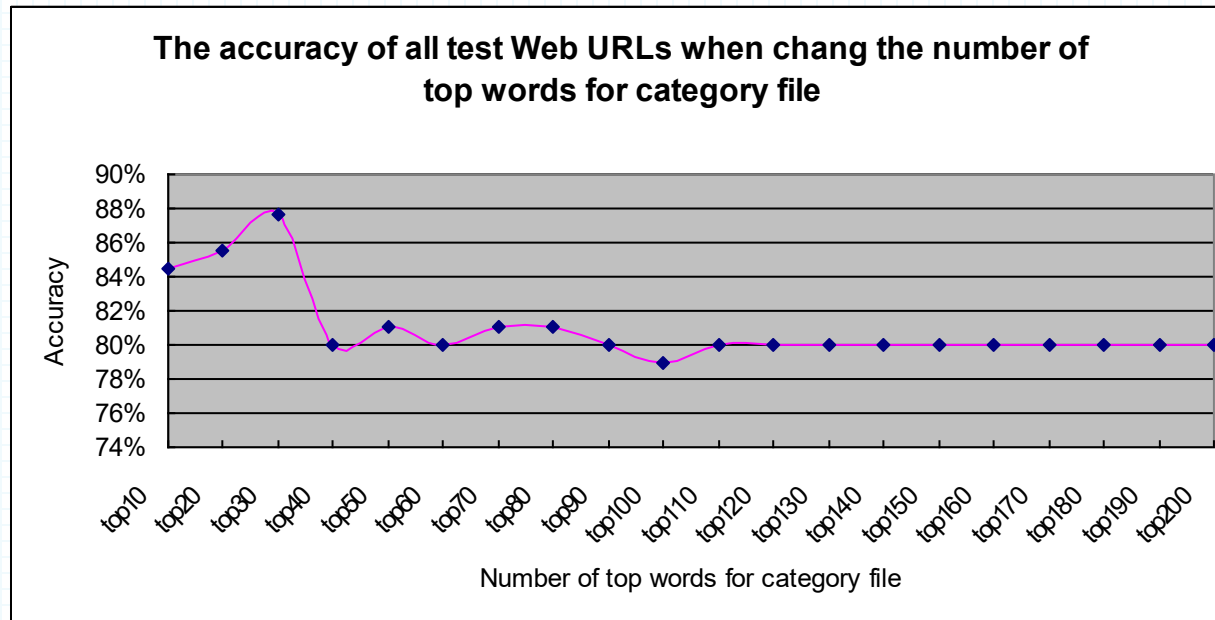
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# Feature Selection: What

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- You have a data has 100,000 fields (features)
  - Examples?
- You want to use it to build a classifier, so that you can predict something
  - What are the possible problems?
- you need to cut it down to 1,000 fields before you try machine learning.  
Which 1,000?
  - How to do that => Feature Selection

# Feature Selection: Why



**Why accuracy reduces**

# Why accuracy reduces

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- **Noise:** The additional features typically **add noise**. Machine learning will pick up on **fake correlations**, that might be true in the training set, but not in the test set (**overfitting**).
  - Example: what will happen if you learn ID3 with too many noisy data?
- **Explosion:** For some ML methods, more features means **more parameters to learn** (more NN weights, more decision tree nodes, etc...) – the increased space of possibilities is **more difficult to search**.

# Univariate feature selection

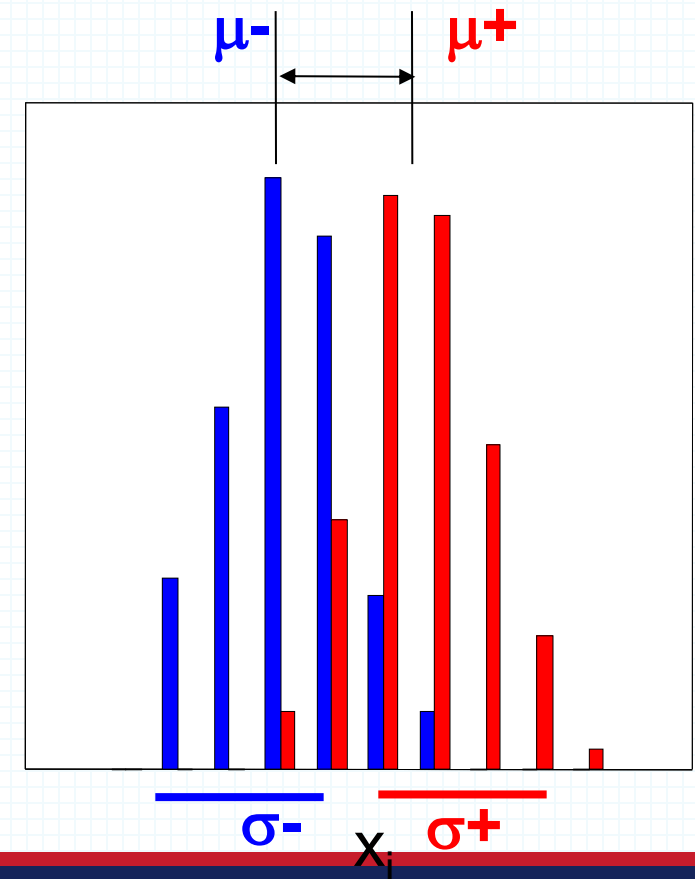
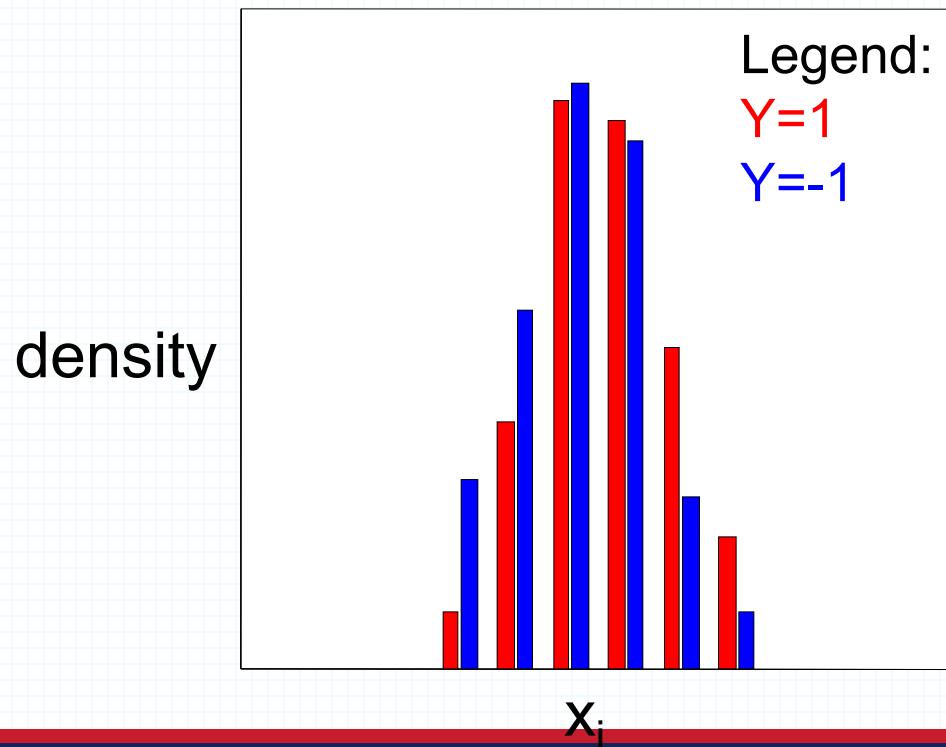
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- Univariate feature selection works by selecting the best features based on univariate statistical tests. It can be seen as a preprocessing step to an estimator.
  - Example: In scikit, *SelectKBest* removes all but the *h* highest scoring features based on a scoring function.
- Methods are used to rank features by importance
  - Pearson correlation coefficient
  - F-score
  - Chi-square
  - Signal to noise ratio
  - And more such as mutual information,

```
>>> from sklearn.datasets import load_digits
>>> from sklearn.feature_selection import SelectKBest, chi2
>>> X, y = load_digits(return_X_y=True)
>>> X.shape
(1797, 64)
>>> X_new = SelectKBest(chi2, k=20).fit_transform(X, y)
>>> X_new.shape
(1797, 20)
```

# Univariate feature selection: Example

Univariate feature selection works by selecting the best features based on univariate statistical tests. It can be seen as a preprocessing step to an estimator.



But..

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PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

### The Best Two Independent Measurements Are Not the Two Best

THOMAS M. COVER

**Abstract**—Consider an item that belongs to one of two classes,  $\theta = 0$  or  $\theta = 1$ , with equal probability. Suppose also that there are two measurement experiments  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  that can be performed, and suppose that the outcomes are independent (given  $\theta$ ). Let  $E_1'$  denote an independent performance of experiment  $E_1$ . Let  $P_e(E)$  denote the probability of error resulting from the performance of experiment  $E$ . Elashoff [1] gives an example of three experiments  $E_1, E_2, E_3$  such that  $P_e(E_1) < P_e(E_2) < P_e(E_3)$ , but  $P_e(E_1, E_3) < P_e(E_1, E_2)$ . Toussaint [2] exhibits binary valued experiments satisfying  $P_e(E_1) < P_e(E_2) < P_e(E_3)$ , such that  $P_e(E_2, E_3) < P_e(E_1, E_3) < P_e(E_1, E_2)$ . We shall give an example of binary valued experiments  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  such that  $P_e(E_1) < P_e(E_2)$ , but  $P_e(E_2, E_2') < P_e(E_1, E_2) < P_e(E_1, E_1')$ . Thus if one observation is allowed,  $E_1$  is the best experiment. If two observations are allowed, then two independent

The Bayes probability of error is given for a discrete random variable  $X$  by

$$P_e(E) = \sum_x \min \{ \Pr \{ \theta = 0 \} P_0(x), \Pr \{ \theta = 1 \} P_1(x) \}.$$

Thus, for example,

$$\begin{aligned} P_e(E_1) &= \frac{1}{2} \min \{ 1 - p_0, 1 - p_1 \} + \frac{1}{2} \min \{ p_0, p_1 \} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [1 - |p_0 - p_1|]. \end{aligned}$$

Choose

$$p_0 = 0.96, p_1 = 0.04, r_0 = 0.9, r_1 = 0.$$

We then have

$$P_e(E_1) = 0.04$$

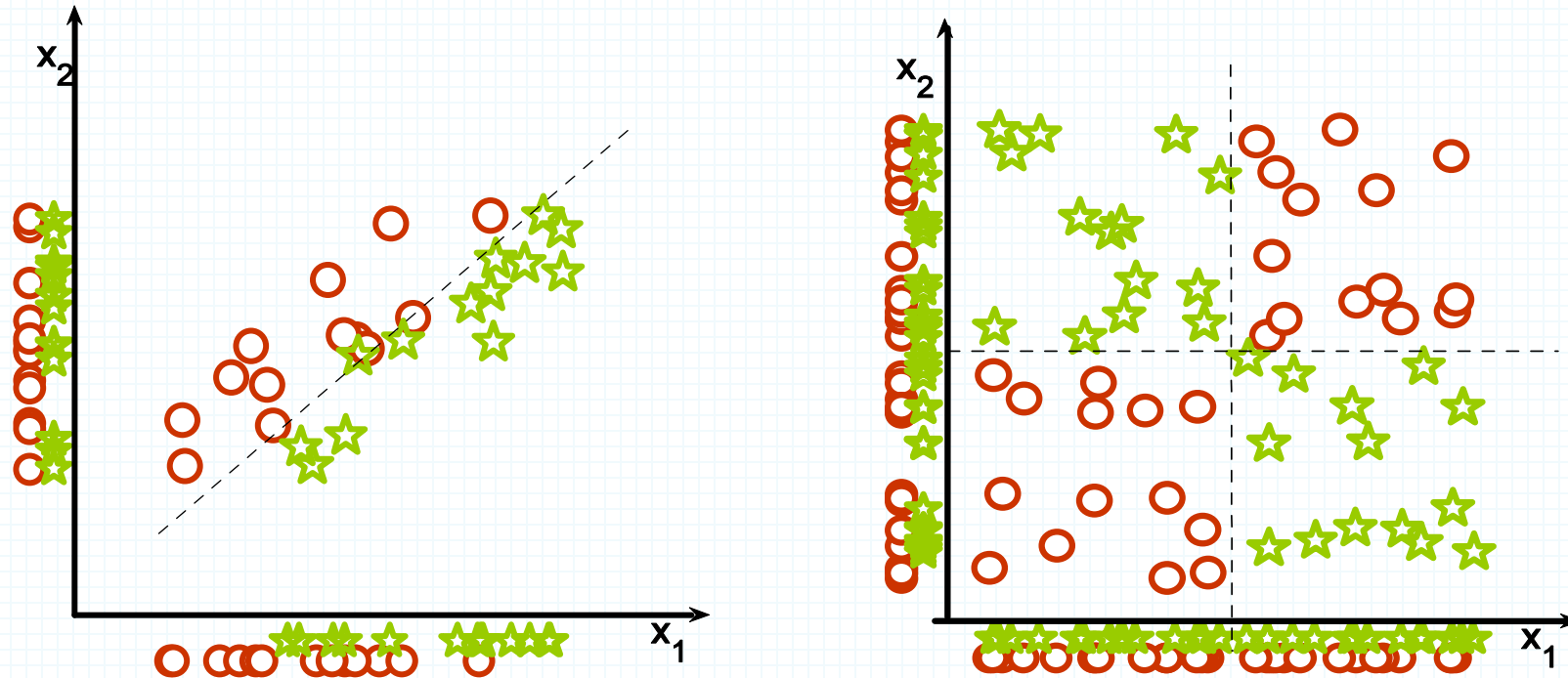
$$< P_e(E_2) = 0.05$$

and

$$P_e(E_2, E_2') = 0.005$$

# Univariate feature selection

- Look at the projection onto each axis.
- Univariate feature selection could throw away  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in both cases.
- $x_2$  alone is irrelevant but together with  $x_1$  is good.



# Example

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- Correlation-based feature ranking?

- It is actually fine for certain datasets.
- But bad for many cases
  - WHY?
- Example:

f1	f2	f3	f4	...	class
0.4	0.6	0.4	0.6		1
0.2	0.4	1.6	-0.6		1
0.5	0.7	1.8	-0.8		1
0.7	0.8	0.2	0.9		2
0.9	0.8	1.8	-0.7		2
0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5		2

# Example

---

f1	f2	f3	f4	...	class
0.4	0.6	0.4	0.6		1
0.2	0.4	1.6	-0.6		1
0.5	0.7	1.8	-0.8		1
0.7	0.8	0.2	0.9		2
0.9	0.8	1.8	-0.7		2
0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5		2

Correlated with the class

# Example

---

f1	f2	f3	f4	...	class
0.4	0.6	0.4	0.6		1
0.2	0.4	1.6	-0.6		1
0.5	0.7	1.8	-0.8		1
0.7	0.8	0.2	0.9		2
0.9	0.8	1.8	-0.7		2
0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5		2

uncorrelated with the class  
(Noise?)

# Example

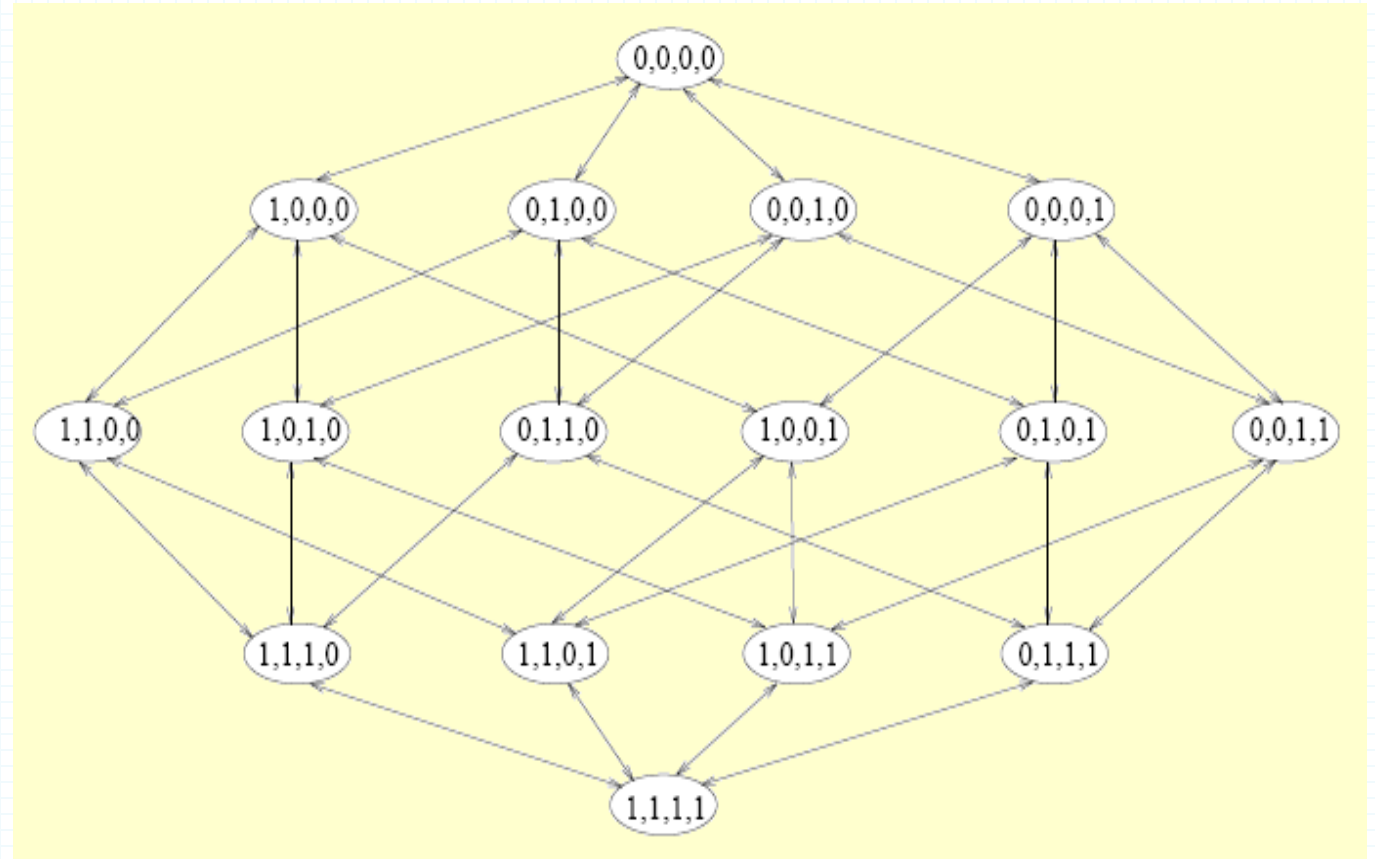
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f1	f2	f3	f4	...	class
0.4	0.6	0.4	0.6	1	1
0.2	0.4	1.6	-0.6	1	1
0.5	0.7	1.8	-0.8	1	1
0.7	0.8	0.2	0.9	1.1	2
0.9	0.8	1.8	-0.7	1.1	2
0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.1	2

**But, col 5 shows us  $f3 + f4$  –  
which is perfectly  
correlated with the class!**

# Multivariate feature selection

- Multivariate feature selection implies a search in the space of all possible combinations of features.
- For  $n$  features, there are  $2^n$  possible subsets of features.
- This yields both to a high computational and statistical complexity.



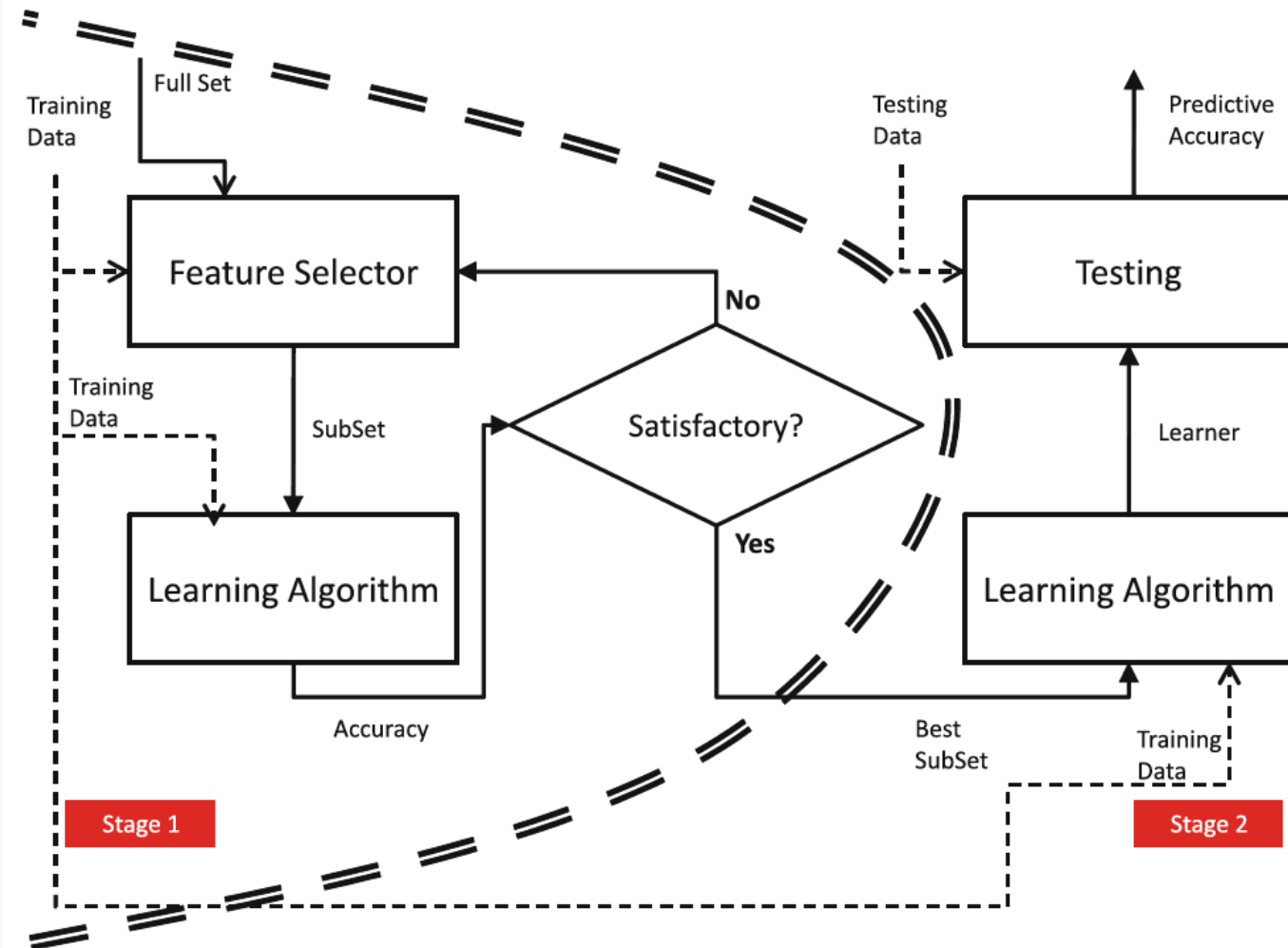
# Multivariate feature selection

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- How to search the space of all possible variable subsets ?
  - A wide range of heuristic search strategies can be used.  
Two different classes:
    - Forward selection  
(start with empty feature set and add features at each step)
    - Backward elimination  
(start with full feature set and discard features at each step)
- How can we evaluate each subset?

# Wrapper Methods

- A Learner is used to score subsets of features according to the predictive power of the learner when using the subsets.
- Results vary for different learners.



# Filter Methods

- Filters function analogously to wrappers, but they use in the evaluation function something cheaper to compute than the performance of the target learning machine (e.g. a correlation coefficient or the performance of a naïve machine learning approach).
- Filtering method is much faster but it do not incorporate learning.

