

1 Accuracy, Precision and Recall

Accuracy, Precision and Recall are all measures of relevance for a binary classifier. For a binary classifier that classifies instances into positive (1) and negative (0) instances, any single prediction can fall into one of four buckets:

True Positive (TP): The correct label of the given instance is positive, and the classifier also predicts it as a positive

True Negative (TN): The correct label is negative, and the classifier also predicts a negative

False Positive (FP): The correct label is negative, but the classifier incorrectly predicts it as positive

False Negative (FN): The correct label is positive, but the classifier incorrectly predicts it as negative

		Actual value	
		P	N
Prediction outcome	P	True Positive	False Positive
	N	False Negative	True Negative

Figure 1

Lets say you test 20 patients and you want to know whether they have cancer or not. So, we have a simple Table

Patient	Diagnosis=Correct	Diagnosis=Wrong
Cancer	8	2
No cancer	1	9

Based on the above data, we can arrive at:

Probability of patient getting correct diagnosis given he has cancer is

$$P(\frac{P}{C}) = \text{True Positive} = 8/10$$

Accuracy, Precision and Recall

Probability of patient getting wrong diagnosis given he has cancer is

$$P(\frac{N}{C}) = \text{False Negative} = 2/10$$

Probability of patient getting wrong diagnosis given he has no cancer is

$$P(\frac{N}{NC}) = \text{True Negative} = 9/10$$

Probability of patient undergone correct diagnosis given he has no cancer is

$$P(\frac{P}{NC}) = \text{False Positive} = 1/10$$

Given a test set that you are evaluating the performance of your classifier over, your predictions will consist of a bunch of TPs, TNs, FPs and FNs. Given these predictions, here is how Accuracy, Precision and Recall are defined:

Accuracy is simply the fraction of the total sample that is correctly identified.

$$\text{Accuracy} = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN}$$

Precision is the fraction of the positive predictions that are actually positive.

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

Recall is the measure of how much of positive samples have been identified as such.

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

There are also other additional concepts and can go through references[1].

2 References:

- [1] <https://www.analyticsvidhya.com/blog/2016/02/7-important-model-evaluation-error-metrics/>