CPSC 340: Machine Learning and Data Mining

Non-Parametric Models Summer 2021

In This Lecture

- Laplace Smoothing (5 minutes)
- Decision Theory (10 minutes)
- K-Nearest Neighbours (30 minutes)

Coming Up Next
LAPLACE SMOOTHING

Naïve Bayes

Naïve Bayes formally:



• Post-lecture slides: how to train/test by hand on a simple example.

Laplace Smoothing

• Our estimate of p('lactase' = 1| 'spam') is:

- But there is a problem if you have no spam messages with lactase:
 - p('lactase' | 'spam') = 0, so spam messages with lactase automatically get through.
- Common fix is Laplace smoothing:
 - Add 1 to numerator, and 2 to denominator (for binary features).
 - Acts like a "fake" spam example that has lactase, and a "fake" spam example that doesn't.

Laplace Smoothing

• Laplace smoothing:

- Typically you do this for all features.
 - Helps against overfitting by biasing towards the uniform distribution.
- A common variation is to use a real number β rather than 1.
 - Add ' β k' to denominator if feature has 'k' possible values (so it sums to 1).

$$p(x_{ij}=c|y_i=c|as) \approx \frac{(number of examples in class with x_{ij}=c) + \beta}{(number of examples in class) + \beta K}$$

"Regularization"

- Laplace smoothing is a special case of regularization.
 Regularization: control the complexity of model
 - We will see more examples of regularization in this class.

Coming Up Next DECISION THEORY

My mother's day email when my mom's spam filter throws it out



Decision Theory

- Are we equally concerned about "spam" vs. "not spam"?
- True positives, false positives, false negatives, true negatives:

Ň

		5	
Ν	Predict / True	True 'spam'	True 'not spam'
Ŵ	Predict 'spam'	True Positive	False Positive
L	Predict 'not spam'	False Negative	True Negative

- The costs mistakes might be different:
 - Letting a spam message through (false negative) is not a big deal.
 - Filtering a not spam (false positive) message will make users mad.

Decision Theory

- Instead of most probable label, take \hat{y}_i minimizing expected cost:

E
$$\left[cost(\hat{y}_i, \hat{y}_i) \right]$$

expectation of model $\left[cost(\hat{y}_i, \hat{y}_i) \right]$
with respect to \hat{y}_i if it's really \hat{y}_i

• Even if "spam" has a higher probability, predicting "spam" might have a expected higher cost.

		$\widetilde{\mathfrak{S}}$ (probability, cost)				
Ν	Predict / True	True 'spam'	True 'not spam'			
Ŵ	Predict 'spam'	(0.6, 0)	(0.4, 100)			
J	Predict 'not spam'	(0.6, 10)	(0.4, 0)			

• Consider a test example we have $p(\tilde{y}_i = \text{"spam"} | \tilde{x}_i) = 0.6$, then:

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\cos t(\hat{y}_{i} = \text{"spam"}, \tilde{y}_{i}) \right] = \rho(\tilde{y}_{i} = \text{"spam"}|\tilde{x}_{i}) \cos t(\hat{y}_{i} = \text{"spam"}, \tilde{y}_{i} = \text{"spam"}) \\ + \rho(\tilde{y}_{i} = \text{"not spam"}|\tilde{x}_{i}) \cos t(\hat{y}_{i} = \text{"spam"}, \tilde{y}_{i} = \text{"not spam"}) \\ = (0.6)(0) + (0.4)(100) = 40$$

• Even though "spam" is more likely, we should predict "not spam".

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\cos^{\dagger}(\hat{y}_{i}=n_{0}t \operatorname{spam}^{\prime}, \tilde{y}_{i})\right] = (0.6)(10) + (0.4)(0) = 6$$

Decision Theory Discussion

- In other applications, the costs could be different.
 - In cancer screening, maybe false positives are ok, but don't want to have false negatives.
- Decision theory and "darts":
 - <u>http://www.datagenetics.com/blog/january12012/index.html</u>
- Decision theory and video poker:
 - <u>http://datagenetics.com/blog/july32019/index.html</u>
- Decision theory can help with "unbalanced" class labels:
 - If 99% of e-mails are spam, you get 99% accuracy by always predicting "spam".
 - Decision theory approach avoids this.
 - See also precision/recall curves and ROC curves in the bonus material.

Decision Theory and Basketball

"How Mapping Shots In The NBA Changed It Forever"



From UBC-CPSC AH Ops <ah-ops@cs.ubc.ca> 🏠</ah-ops@cs.ubc.ca>	✤ Reply	🄲 Reply All 🗸	→ Forward	Archive	👌 Junk	Delete	Mor
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Dear Nam Hee,

Thank you for your interest in a sessional lecturer position in the Department of Computer Science. Drs. Kemi Ola, Jonatan Schroeder and I would like to further explore the possibility of you teaching for the department during a 90 minute interview.

At the start of your interview you will be asked to present a 30 minute sample undergraduate lecture providing an introduction to "k nearest neighbour classification" suitable for students taking CPSC 340. You should begin your sample lecture by explaining any additional context in which you assume it is placed, for example, topics that you assume were covered earlier in the course. During this mini-lecture, we will play the role of undergraduate students taking the course. We ask you to make your presentation as representative as possible of method(s) by which you would teach and engage learners in a large online course (100+ students).

Coming Up Next

K-NEAREST NEIGHBOURS

• Can you tell whether ? is orange or blue?



• Can you tell whether ? is orange or blue?



• Can you tell whether ? is orange or blue?



- You probably did this:
- 1. Look at the neighbours of ?
- 2. See if there are more oranges or blues in the neighbourhood

• Can you tell whether ? is orange or blue?



Q: How many neighbours should we look at?

1-nearest neighbour \rightarrow orange 3-nearest neighbours \rightarrow blue 5-nearest neighbours \rightarrow orange

Coming Up Next: MORE FORMAL DISCUSSION OF KNN

- An old/simple classifier: k-nearest neighbours (KNN).
- To classify an example \tilde{x}_i :
 - 1. Find the 'k' training examples x_i that are "nearest" to \tilde{x}_i .
 - 2. Classify using the most common label of "nearest" training examples.



Defining "Distance"



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Defining "Distance" with "Norms"

- A common way to define the "distance" between examples:
 Take the "norm" of the difference between feature vectors.
- Norms are a way to measure the "length" of a vector.
 - The most common norm is the "L2-norm" (or "Euclidean norm"):



- Here, the "norm" of the difference is the standard Euclidean distance.
- There are many other ways to define distance (bonus slides)

L2-norm, L1-norm, and L ∞ -Norms.

The three most common norms: L2-norm, L1-norm, and L∞-norm. ٠ - Visualizing 2D cases:



Infinite Series Video

Decision Trees vs. KNN

Trained decision tree



Q: What does this decision tree predict?

Decision Trees vs. KNN

Trained decision tree



Q: What does 1-nearest neighbour predict?

Dataset

milk	egg	lactose	sick
0	0	0	0
0.5	0	0	0
0.7	2	0	1
1.0	3	3	1
3	3	3	1

Decision Trees vs. KNN

Trained decision tree



Q: Why is there no model structure? What does a trained KNN model look like?

Dataset

Γ	milk	egg	lactose	sick
	0	0	0	0
	0.5	0	0	0
	0.7	2	0	1
	1.0	3	3	1
	3	3	3	1

How Do We "Train" KNN?

- There is no training phase in KNN ("lazy" learning).
 - You just store the training data.
 - Costs O(1) if you use a pointer.
- But predictions are expensive: O(nd) to classify 1 test example.
 - Need to do O(d) distance calculation for all 'n' training examples.
 - So prediction time grows with number of training examples.
 - Tons of work on reducing this cost (we'll discuss this later).
- But storage is expensive: needs O(nd) memory to store 'X' and 'y'.
 - So memory grows with number of training examples.
 - When storage depends on 'n', we call it a non-parametric model.

How Does 'k' Affect KNN's Behaviour?

- With large 'k' (hyper-parameter), KNN model will be very simple.
 - With k=n, you just return the mode of the labels.
 - Model gets more complicated as 'k' decreases. (WHY?)
 - The 1st nearest neighbour is very sensitive to the trend of the data



- Effect of 'k' on fundamental trade-off:
 - As 'k' grows, training error increases and approximation error decreases.

When you train KNN



Coming Up Next NON-PARAMETRIC MODELS

Parametric vs. Non-Parametric

- Parametric models:
 - Have fixed number of parameters: trained "model" size is O(1) in terms 'n'.
 - E.g., naïve Bayes just stores counts.
 - E.g., fixed-depth decision tree just stores rules for that depth.
 - You can estimate the fixed parameters more accurately with more data.
 - But eventually more data doesn't help: model is too simple.
- Non-parametric models:
 - Number of parameters grows with 'n': size of "model" depends on 'n'.
 - Model gets more complicated as you get more data.
 - E.g., KNN stores all the training data, so size of "model" is O(nd).
 - E.g., decision tree whose depth grows with the number of examples.

Parametric vs. Non-Parametric Models

- Parametric models have bounded memory.
- Non-parametric models can have unbounded memory.



Effect of 'n' in KNN.

• With a small 'n', KNN model will be very simple.



- Model gets more complicated as 'n' increases.
 - Requires more memory, but detects subtle differences between examples.

Q: Does that mean we overfit with large n?

Consistency of KNN ('n' going to ' ∞ ')

- KNN has appealing consistency properties:
 - As 'n' goes to ∞ , KNN test error is less than twice best possible error.
 - For fixed 'k' and binary labels (under mild assumptions).
- Stone's Theorem: KNN is "universally consistent".
 - If k/n goes to zero and 'k' goes to ∞ , converges to the best possible error.
 - For example, k = log(n).
 - First algorithm shown to have this property.
- Does Stone's Theorem violate the no free lunch theorem?
 - No: it requires a continuity assumption on the labels.
 - Consistency says nothing about finite 'n' (see "Dont Trust Asymptotics").

Parametric vs. Non-Parametric Models

- With parametric models, there is an accuracy limit.
 - Even with infinite 'n', may not be able to achieve optimal error (E_{best}) .



Parametric vs. Non-Parametric Models

- With parametric models, there is an accuracy limit.
 Even with infinite 'n', may not be able to achieve optimal error (E_{best}).
- Many non-parametric models (like KNN) converge to optimal error.



Coming Up Next
CURSE OF DIMENSIONALITY

Application: Netflix Show Recommendation

- I want to recommend shows according to "likes": •
 - A simplified case of "recommender systems"





All shows on Netflix





Should I recommend this show?

Application: Netflix Show Recommendation



Curse of Dimensionality

- What if I have n=5 users and d=10000 shows?
 - Much less likely that nearest neighbours have "perfect match"
 - In fact, not very likely to have similar preferences at all.
 - "Curse of dimensionality": problems with high-dimensional spaces.
 - For each additional show, we need exponentially more users to preserve the usefulness of nearest neighbours
- KNN is also problematic if features have very different scales.
 What if feature 1 is binary and feature 2 is continuous and can be huge?
- Nevertheless, KNN is really easy to use and often hard to beat!

Summary

- Decision theory allows us to consider costs of predictions.
- K-Nearest Neighbours: use most common label of nearest examples.
 - Often works surprisingly well.
 - Suffers from high prediction and memory cost.
 - Canonical example of a "non-parametric" model.
 - Can suffer from the "curse of dimensionality".
- Non-parametric models grow with number of training examples.
 - Can have appealing "consistency" properties.
- Next Time:
 - Fighting the fundamental trade-off and Microsoft Kinect.

Review Questions

- Q1: Suppose I am learning Naïve Bayes with Laplace Smoothing. If I have 0 examples in class c, what probability do I assign to $p(x_i | y_i = c)$?
- Q2: Increasing true positives can increase false positives. When is this an acceptable risk?
- Q3: How do we choose the value of k in KNN?
- Q4: Is decision tree a parametric model?

Naïve Bayes Training Phase

Training a naïve Bayes model:



Naïve Bayes Training Phase

Training a naïve Bayes model:

1. Set n_c to the number of times $(y_i = c)$.



Naïve Bayes Training Phase 6 - n=6 Training a naïve Bayes model: $X = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ 1. Set n_c to the number of times $(y_i = c)$. 2. Estimate $p(y_i=c)$ as $\underline{N_c}$. $p(y_i = 0) = \frac{4}{10} - n$



Naïve Bayes Training Phase in the second of times $(y_i = c)$. 1. Set n_c to the number of times $(y_i = c)$. 2. Estimate $p(y_i = c)$ as $\underline{n_c}$. 3. Set n_{cjk} as the number of times $(y_i = c, x_{ij} = k)$ $X = \begin{cases} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0$

 $p(x_{i2} = 1, y_i = 1) = \frac{4}{10}$ $p(y_i = 0) = \frac{4}{10}$

Naïve Bayes Training Phase - 6 Training a naïve Bayes model: 1. Set n_c to the number of times $(y_i = c)$. 2. Estimate $p(y_i=c)$ as $\underline{N_c}$. 3. Set n_{cjk} as the number of times $(y_i = c_j \times j_j = k)$ 4. Estimate $p(x_i = k_y = c)$ as $\frac{n_{cik}}{n}$ 5. Use that $p(x_{ij}=k \mid y_i=c) = p \frac{p(x_{ij}=k, y_i=c)}{p(y_i=c)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \frac{d}{p(y_i=c)} = \frac{n_{cjk}/n}{n_c/n} = \frac{n_{cjk}}{n_c} \int p(x_{ij}=l_{j}y_{i}=l) = \frac{4}{10} \int p(y_{ij}=0) \int$

• Prediction in a naïve Bayes model:

Given a test example
$$\hat{x}_i$$
 we set prediction \hat{y}_i to the 'c' maximizing $p(\hat{x}_i | \hat{y}_i = c)$

Under the naive Bayes assumption we can maximize:

$$p(\tilde{y}_{i}=c \mid \tilde{x}_{i}) \propto \prod_{j=1}^{d} \left[p(\tilde{x}_{ij} \mid \tilde{y}_{i}=c) \right] p(\tilde{y}_{i}=c)$$

• Prediction in a naïve Bayes model: Consider $\hat{x}_i = [1 \ 1]$ in this data set -9



• Prediction in a naïve Bayes model: Consider $\hat{x}_{i} = [1]$ in this data set -9 $p(\hat{y}_{i} = 0 | \hat{x}_{i}) \propto p(\hat{x}_{i} = 1 / \hat{y}_{i} = 0) p(\hat{y}_{i} = 0) p(\hat{y}_{i} = 0)$ $= (1) \quad (0.25) \quad (0.4) = 0.$ $X = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

• Prediction in a naïve Bayes model:
Consider
$$\hat{x}_{i} = (1 | 1)$$
 in this data set \longrightarrow
 $p(\hat{y}_{i} = 0 | \hat{x}_{i}) \propto p(\hat{x}_{i} = 1 | \hat{y}_{i} = 0) p(\hat{x}_{2} = 1 | \hat{y}_{i} = 0) p(\hat{y}_{i} = 0)$
 $= (1) \quad (0.25) \quad (0.4) = 0.$ $X = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\$

"Proportional to" for Probabilities

• When we say " $p(y) \propto \exp(-y^2)$ " for a function 'p', we mean:

$$p(y) = \beta exp(-y^2)$$
 for some constant 'B'.

- However, if 'p' is a probability then it must sum to 1. – If $y \in \{1,2,3,4\}$ then $\rho(1) + \rho(2) + \rho(3) + \rho(4) = 1$
- Using this fact, we can find β :

$$\beta e_{xp}(-|^{2}) + \beta e_{xp}(-2^{2}) + \beta e_{xp}(-3^{2}) + \beta e_{xp}(-4^{2}) = |$$

$$\leq = 7 \beta \left[e_{xp}(-|^{2}) + e_{xp}(-2^{2}) + e_{xp}(-3^{2}) + e_{xp}(-4^{2}) = |$$

$$\leq = 7 \beta = e_{xp}(-1^{2}) + e_{xp}(-2^{2}) + e_{xp}(-3^{2}) + e_{xp}(-4^{2}) + e$$

Probability of Paying Back a Loan and Ethics

- Article discussing predicting "whether someone will pay back a loan":
 - <u>https://www.thecut.com/2017/05/what-the-words-you-use-in-a-loan-application-reveal.html</u>
- Words that increase probability of paying back the most:
 - debt-free, lower interest rate, after-tax, minimum payment, graduate.
- Words that decrease probability of paying back the most:
 God, promise, will pay, thank you, hospital.
- Article also discusses an important issue: are all these features ethical?
 - Should you deny a loan because of religion or a family member in the hospital?
 - ICBC is limited in the features it is allowed to use for prediction.

Avoiding Underflow

• During the prediction, the probability can underflow:

$$p(y_i = c \mid x_i) \propto \prod_{j=1}^{d} [p(x_{ij} \mid y_i = c)] p(y_i = c)$$

All these are <1 so the product gets very small.

 Standard fix is to (equivalently) maximize the logarithm of the probability: Rember that log(ab) = log(a) + log(b) so log(Tiai) = £ log(ai)
 Since log is monotonic the 'c' maximizing p(y;=clxi) also maximizes log p(y;=clxi);
 So maximize log(d/(i) [p(xi) | yi=c)] p(yi=c)) = d/(log(p(xi) | yi=c)) + log(p(yi=c))
 So maximize log(d/(i) [p(xi) | yi=c)] p(yi=c)) = d/(log(p(xi) | yi=c)) + log(p(yi=c))
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Less-Naïve Bayes

Given features {x1,x2,x3,...,xd}, naïve Bayes approximates p(y|x) as:

- The assumption is very strong, and there are "less naïve" versions:
 - Assume independence of all variables except up to 'k' largest 'j' where j < i.
 - E.g., naïve Bayes has k=0 and with k=2 we would have:

$$\simeq p(y) p(x, |y) p(x_2 | x, y) p(x_3 | x, y) p(x_4 | y, x, y) \cdots p(x_4 | x, y) p(x_1 | x) p(y)$$

• Fewer independence assumptions so more flexible, but hard to estimate for large 'k'.

Another practical variation is "tree-augmented" naïve Bayes.

Computing p(x_i) under naïve Bayes

- Generative models don't need p(x_i) to make decisions.
- However, it's easy to calculate under the naïve Bayes assumption:

$$p(x_{i}) = \sum_{c=1}^{K} p(x_{i}, y = c) \quad (marginalization rule)$$

$$= \sum_{c=1}^{K} p(x_{i} | y = c) p(y = c) \quad (product rule)$$

$$= \sum_{c=1}^{K} \left[\prod_{j=1}^{d} p(x_{ij} | y = c) \right] p(y = c) \quad (naive Bayes assumption)$$
These are the quantilies
we compute during training.

Gaussian Discriminant Analysis

- Classifiers based on Bayes rule are called generative classifier:
 - They often work well when you have tons of features.
 - But they need to know $p(x_i | y_i)$, probability of features given the class.
 - How to "generate" features, based on the class label.
- To fit generative models, usually make BIG assumptions:
 - Naïve Bayes (NB) for discrete x_i :
 - Assume that each variables in x_i is independent of the others in x_i given y_i .
 - Gaussian discriminant analysis (GDA) for continuous x_i .
 - Assume that $p(x_i | y_i)$ follows a multivariate normal distribution.
 - If all classes have same covariance, it's called "linear discriminant analysis".

Other Performance Measures

- Classification error might be wrong measure:
 - Use weighted classification error if have different costs.
 - Might want to use things like Jaccard measure: TP/(TP + FP + FN).
- Often, we report precision and recall (want both to be high):
 - Precision: "if I classify as spam, what is the probability it actually is spam?"
 - Precision = TP/(TP + FP).
 - High precision means the filtered messages are likely to really be spam.
 - Recall: "if a message is spam, what is probability it is classified as spam?"
 - Recall = TP/(TP + FN)
 - High recall means that most spam messages are filtered.

Precision-Recall Curve

- Consider the rule $p(y_i = spam' | x_i) > t$, for threshold 't'.
- Precision-recall (PR) curve plots precision vs. recall as 't' varies.



http://pages.cs.wisc.edu/~jdavis/davisgoadrichcamera2.pdf

ROC Curve

- Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve:
 - Plot true positive rate (recall) vs. false positive rate (FP/FP+TN).



(negative examples classified as positive)

- Diagonal is random, perfect classifier would be in upper left.
- Sometimes papers report area under curve (AUC).
 - Reflects performance for different possible thresholds on the probability.

More on Unbalanced Classes

- With unbalanced classes, there are many alternatives to accuracy as a measure of performance:
 - Two common ones are the Jaccard coefficient and the F-score.
- Some machine learning models don't work well with unbalanced data. Some common heuristics to improve performance are:
 - Under-sample the majority class (only take 5% of the spam messages).
 - https://www.jair.org/media/953/live-953-2037-jair.pdf
 - Re-weight the examples in the accuracy measure (multiply training error of getting non-spam messages wrong by 10).
 - Some notes on this issue are here.

More on Weirdness of High Dimensions

- In high dimensions:
 - Distances become less meaningful:
 - All vectors may have similar distances.
 - Emergence of "hubs" (even with random data):
 - Some datapoints are neighbours to many more points than average.

- Visualizing high dimensions and sphere-packing

Vectorized Distance Calculation

- To classify 't' test examples based on KNN, cost is O(ndt).
 - Need to compare 'n' training examples to 't' test examples, and computing a distance between two examples costs O(d).
- You can do this slightly faster using fast matrix multiplication:
 Let D be a matrix such that D_{ii} contains:

$$||x_{i} - y_{j}||^{2} = ||x_{i}||^{2} - 2x_{i}^{T}x_{j} + ||x_{j}||^{2}$$

where 'i' is a training example and 'j' is a test example.

- We can compute D in Julia using:
- And you get an extra boost because Julia uses multiple cores.

X1.^2*ones(d,t) .+ ones(n,d)*(X2').^2 .- 2X1*X2'

Condensed Nearest Neighbours

- Disadvantage of KNN is slow prediction time (depending on 'n').
- Condensed nearest neighbours:
 - Identify a set of 'm' "prototype" training examples.
 - Make predictions by using these "prototypes" as the training data.
- Reduces runtime from O(nd) down to O(md).





Condensed Nearest Neighbours

- Classic condensed nearest neighbours:
 - Start with no examples among prototypes.
 - Loop through the non-prototype examples 'i' in some order:
 - Classify x_i based on the current prototypes.
 - If prediction is not the true $\boldsymbol{y}_i,$ add it to the prototypes.
 - Repeat the above loop until all examples are classified correctly.
- Some variants first remove points from the original data, if a full-data KNN classifier classifies them incorrectly ("outliers').

Condensed Nearest Neighbours

• Classic condensed nearest neighbours:



- Recent work shows that finding optimal compression is NP-hard.
 - An approximation algorithm algorithm was published in 2018:
 - "Near optimal sample compression for nearest neighbors"

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Knearest_neighbors_algorithm

Refined Fundamental Trade-Off

- Let E_{best} be the irreducible error (lowest possible error for any model).
 For example, irreducible error for predicting coin flips is 0.5.
- Some learning theory results use E_{best} to further decompose E_{test}:



- E_{approx} measures how sensitive we are to training data.
- E_{model} measures if our model is complicated enough to fit data.
- E_{best} measures how low can any model make test error.
 - E_{best} does not depend on what model you choose.

Consistency and Universal Consistency

- A model is consistent for a particular learning problem if:
 - E_{test} converges to E_{best} as 'n' goes to infinity, for that particular problem.
- A model is universally consistent for a class of learning problems if:
 - E_{test} converges to E_{best} as 'n' goes to infinity, for all problems in the class.
- Class of learning problems will usually be "all problems satisfying":
 - A continuity assumption on the labels y^i as a function of x^i .
 - E.g., if x^i is close to x^j then they are likely to receive the same label.
 - A boundedness assumption of the set of xⁱ.

Consistency of KNN (Discrete/Deterministic Case)

- Let's show universal consistency of KNN in a simplified setting.
 - The x^i and y^i are binary, and y^i being a deterministic function of x^i .
 - Deterministic y^i implies that E_{best} is 0.
- Consider KNN with k=1:
 - After we observe an x_i , KNN makes right test prediction for that vector.
 - As 'n' goes to ∞ , each feature vectors with non-zero probability is observed.
 - We have $E_{test} = 0$ once we've seen all feature vectors with non-zero probability.
- Notes:
 - "No free lunch" isn't relevant as 'n' goes to ∞ : we eventually see everything.
 - But there are 2^d possible feature vectors, so might need a huge number of training examples.
 - It's more complicated if labels aren't deterministic and features are continuous.

Consistency of Non-Parametric Models

- Universal consistency can be been shown for many models we'll cover:
 - Linear models with polynomial basis.
 - Linear models with Gaussian RBFs.
 - Neural networks with one hidden layer and standard activations.
 - Sigmoid, tanh, ReLU, etc.
- But it's always the non-parametric versions that are consistent:
 - Where size of model is a function of 'n'.
 - Examples:
 - KNN needs to store all 'n' training examples.
 - Degree of polynomial must grow with 'n' (not true for fixed polynomial).
 - Number of hidden units must grow with 'n' (not true for fixed neural network).