
Master in Human Language Technology and Interfaces

Machine Learning

Alessandro Moschitti

Department of information and communication technology

University of Trento

Email: moschitti@dit.unitn.it



Course Schedule

- prof **Moschitti**
- Today, 14:00-16:00
Friday, Tomorrow: 14:00-16:00, Room 201
- Since November 12
- Thursday and Friday: 14:00-16:00, Room 106



Course Schedule (2)

- prof **Farid**
 - A cycle of seminar lectures
 - Not completely sequential
 - Offer you to have a possibility to learn different topics
 - **Monday**, 13:30 - 15:30, classroom 104
- Tuesday** – sometime depending on the needs
and on the availability of HL course
(classroom 108, 13:30-14:30)



Content of Moschitti's lectures

- PAC Learning
 - VC dimension
- Perceptron
 - Vector Space Model
 - Representer Theorem
- Support Vector Machines (SVMs)
 - Hard/Soft Margin (Classification)
 - Regression and ranking
- Kernels Methods
 - Theory and Algebraic properties
 - Linear, Polynomial, Gaussian
 - Kernel construction,
- kernels for structured data (introduction)
 - Sequence, Tree Kernels



Moschitti's Lab

Minimal schedule

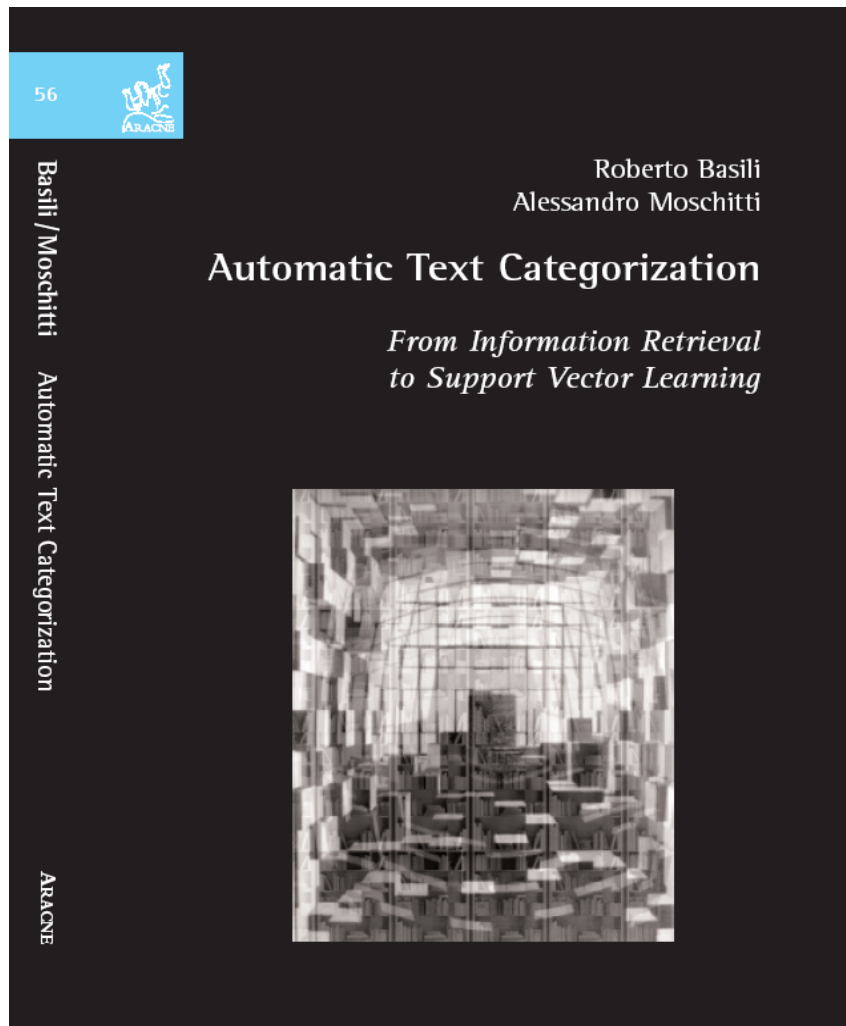
- Automated Text Categorization
- Question Classification (Question Answering)

Optional Topics

- Semantic Role Labeling
- Relation Extraction
- Named Entity Recognition
- Textual Entailment Recognition



Reference Book + some articles



Today

- Introduction to Machine Learning
- Decision Trees
- Introduction to Probability



Why Learning Functions Automatically?

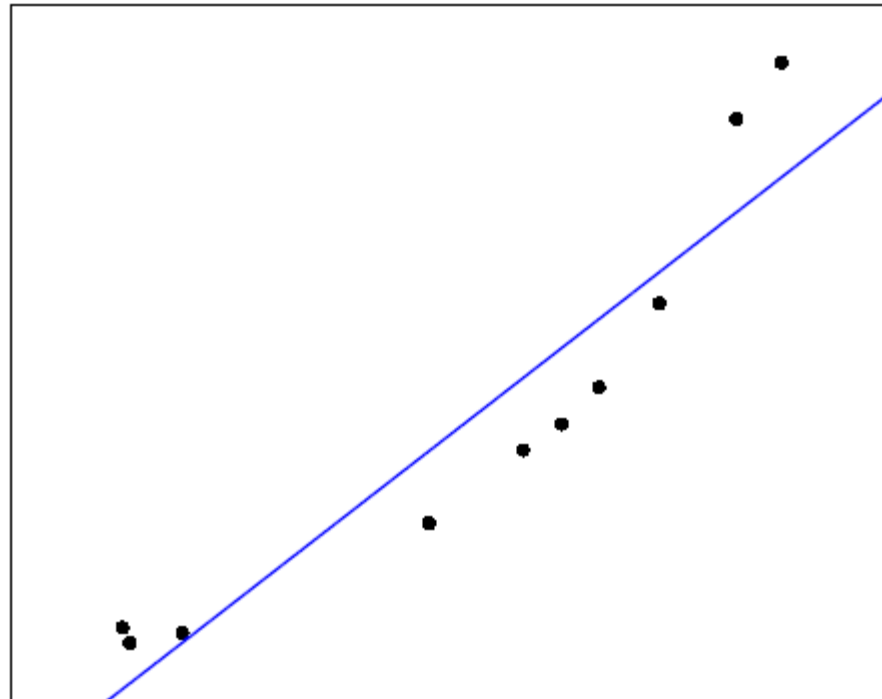
- Anything is a function
 - From the planet motion
 - To the input/output actions of your computer
- Therefore, any problem would be automatically solved



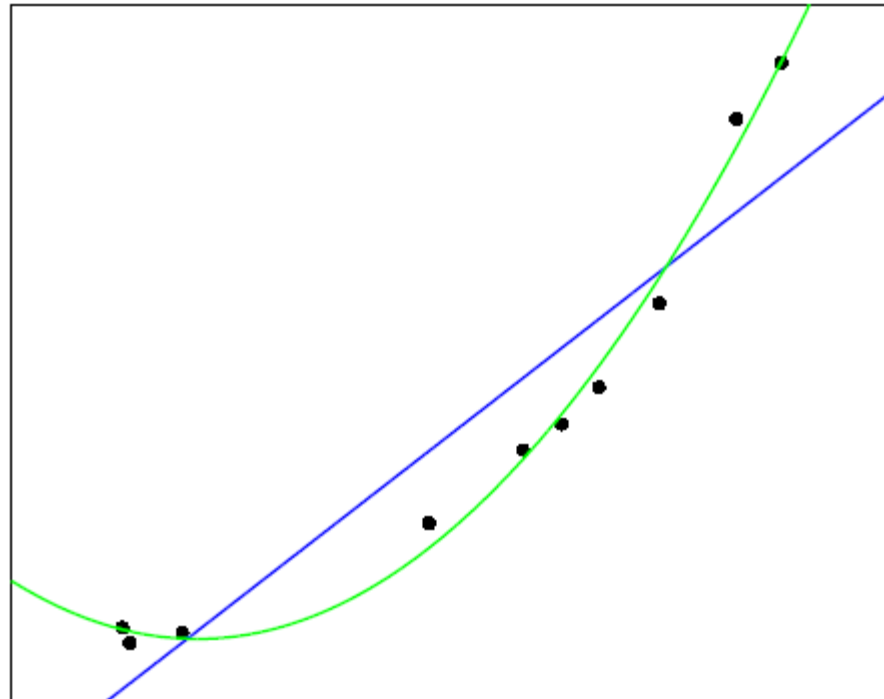
During your previous studies you have already tackled the learning problem



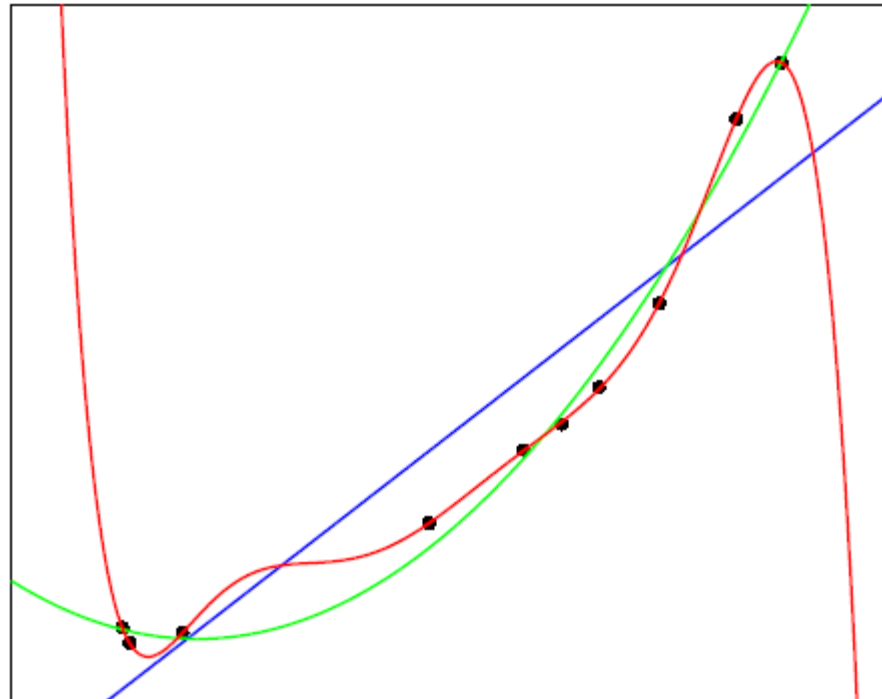
Linear Regression



Degree 2



Degree



Automatic Learning

- Real Values: *regression*
- Finite and integer: *classification*
- Suppose to design the classification function for cat and dog categories:
 - 2 classes
 - $f(x) \rightarrow \{\text{cats}, \text{dogs}\}$
- Given a set of examples of the two categories:
 - Features are extracted (height, mustaches, tooth type, number of legs).
 - Apply a learning algorithm



Basic Learning Concepts

- Positive and Negative examples
- Feature representation
- Learning Algorithm
- Training and test set
- Accuracy measurement
- Can we learn any function?
- Statistical Learning Theory
 - PAC learning



Several Kinds of Learning Algorithms

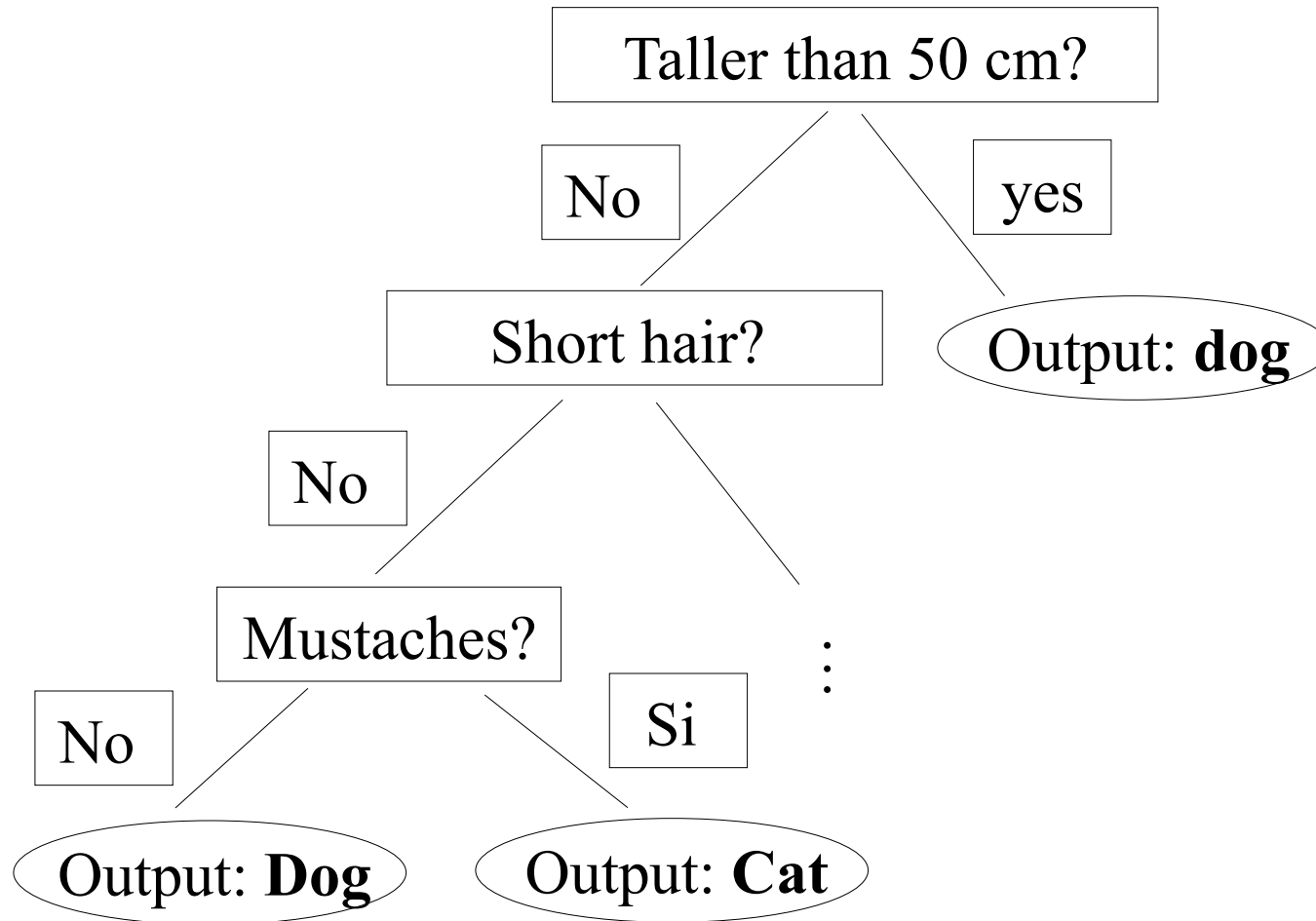
- Logic boolean expressions, (e.g. Decision Trees).
- Probabilistic Functions, (Bayesian Classifier).
- Separating Functions working in vector spaces
 - Non linear: KNN, neural network multiple-layers,...
 - **Linear: SVMs**, neural network with one neuron,...
- These approaches are largely applied In language technology
- Very Simple Example: Text Categorization



Decision Trees



Decision Tree (between Dogs/Cats)



Entropy-based feature selection

- Entropy of class distribution $P(C_i)$:

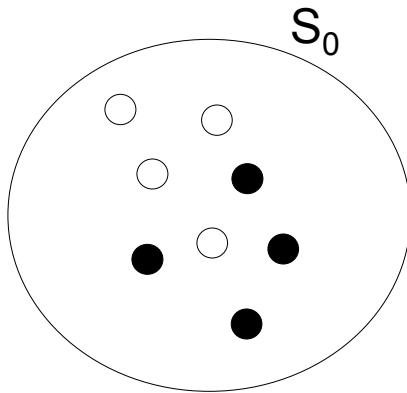
$$H(P) = \sum_{i=1}^m -P(C_i) \log_2(P(C_i))$$

- Measure “how much the distribution is uniform”
- Given $S_1 \dots S_n$ sets partitioned wrt a feature the overall entropy is:

$$\bar{H}(P^{S_1}, \dots, P^{S_n}) = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{H(P^{S_i})}{|S_i|}$$

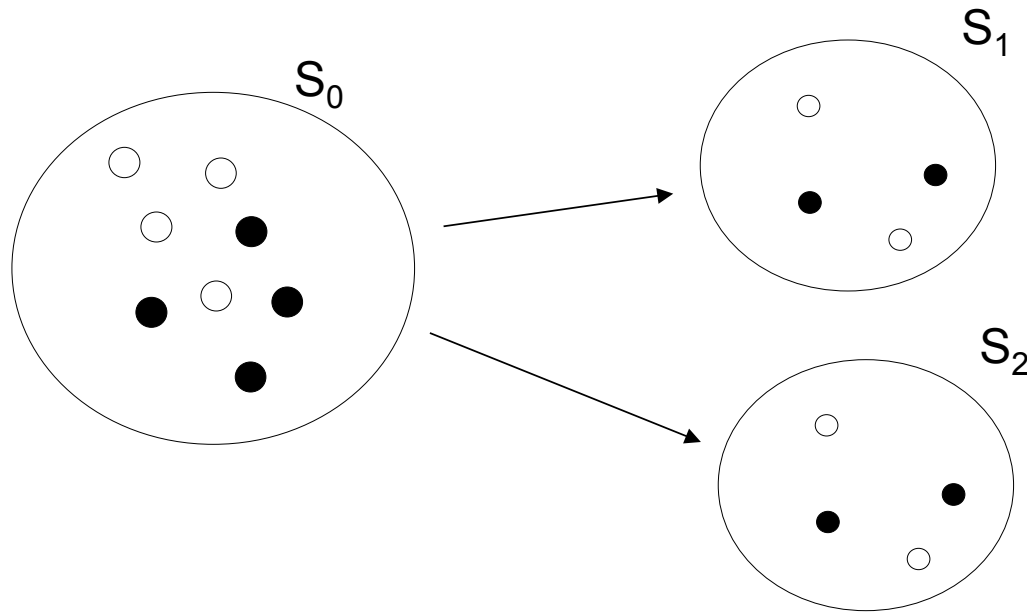


Example: cats and dogs classification



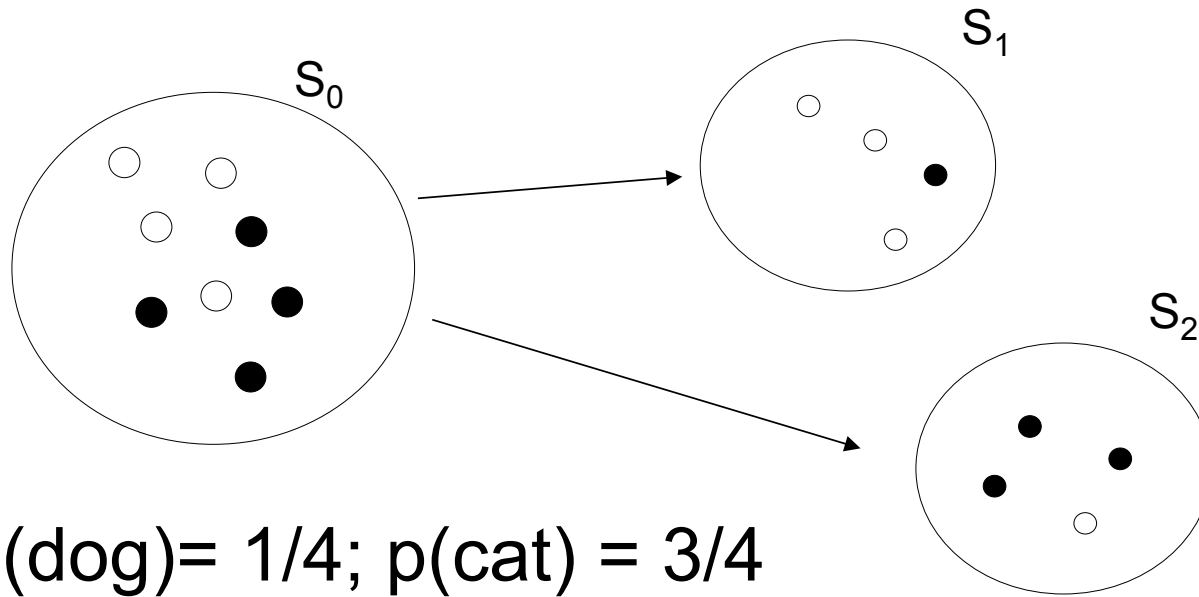
- $p(\text{dog})=p(\text{cat}) = 4/8 = 1/2$ (for both dogs and cats)
- $H(S_0) = 1/2 * \log(2) * 2 = 1$

Has the animal more than 6 siblings?



- $p(\text{dog})=p(\text{cat}) = 2/4 = 1/2$ (for both dogs and cats)
- $H(S_1) = H(S_2) = 1/4 * [1/2 * \log(2) * 2] = 0.25$
- $\text{All}(S_1, S_2) = 2 * .25 = 0.5$

Does the animal have short hair?



- $p(\text{dog}) = 1/4$; $p(\text{cat}) = 3/4$
- $H(S_2) = H(S_1) = \frac{1}{4} * [(\frac{1}{4}) * \log(4) + (\frac{3}{4}) * \log(4/3)] = \frac{1}{4} * [\frac{1}{2} + 0.31] = \frac{1}{4} * 0.81 = 0.20$
- $\text{All}(S_1, S_2) = 0.20 * 2 = 0.40$ (note that $|S_1| = |S_2|$)

Follow up

- ***hair length feature*** is better than ***number of siblings*** since 0.40 is lower than 0.50
- Test all the features
- Choose the best
- Start with a new feature on the collection sets induced by the best feature



Probabilistic Classifier



Probability (1)

- Let Ω be a space and β a collection of subsets of Ω
- β is a collection of events
- A probability function P is defined as:

$$P : \beta \rightarrow [0,1]$$



Definition of Probability

- P is a function which associates each event E with a number $P(E)$ called probability of E as follows:

$$1) 0 \leq P(E) \leq 1$$

$$2) P(\Omega) = 1$$

$$3) P(E_1 \vee E_2 \vee \dots \vee E_n \vee \dots) = \\ = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(E_i) \text{ if } E_i \wedge E_j = 0, \forall i \neq j$$



Finite Partition and Uniformly Distributed

- Given a partition of n events uniformly distributed (with a probability of $1/n$); and
- given an event E , we can evaluate its probability as:

$$P(E) = P(E \wedge E_{tot}) = P(E \wedge (E_1 \vee E_2 \vee \dots \vee E_n)) =$$

$$\sum_i P(E \wedge E_i) = \sum_{E_i \subset E} P(E_i) = \sum_{E_i \subset E} \frac{1}{n} =$$

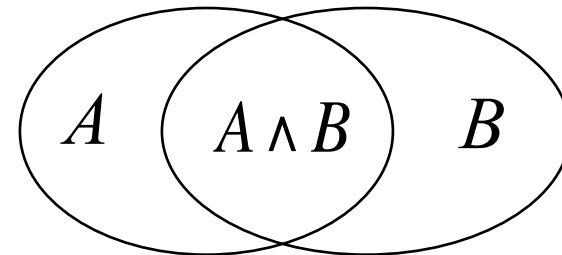
$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{E_i \subset E} 1 = \frac{1}{n} (|\{i : E_i \subset E\}|) = \frac{\text{Target Cases}}{\text{All Cases}}$$



Conditioned Probability

- $P(A | B)$ is the probability of A given B
- B is the piece of information that we know
- The following rule holds:

$$P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \wedge B)}{P(B)}$$



Indipendence

- A and B are indipendent *iff*:

$$P(A | B) = P(A)$$

$$P(B | A) = P(B)$$

- If A and B are indipendent:

$$P(A) = P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \wedge B)}{P(B)}$$

$$P(A \wedge B) = P(A)P(B)$$



Bayes's Theorem

$$P(A | B) = \frac{P(B | A)P(A)}{P(B)}$$

Proof:

$$P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \wedge B)}{P(B)} \quad (\text{Def. of Cond. prob})$$

$$P(B | A) = \frac{P(A \wedge B)}{P(A)} \quad \text{Def. of Cond. prob}$$

$$P(A | B) = \frac{[P(B | A)P(A)]}{P(B)}$$



Bayesian Classifier

- Given a set of categories $\{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$
- Let E be a description of a classifying example.
- The category of E can be derived by using the following probability:

$$P(c_i | E) = \frac{P(c_i)P(E | c_i)}{P(E)}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n P(c_i | E) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{P(c_i)P(E | c_i)}{P(E)} = 1$$

$$P(E) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(c_i)P(E | c_i)$$



Bayesian Classifier (cont)

- We need to compute:
 - the posterior probability: $P(c_i)$
 - the conditional probability: $P(E | c_i)$
- $P(c_i)$ can be estimated from the training set, D .
 - given n_i examples in D of type c_i , then $P(c_i) = n_i / |D|$
- Suppose that an example is represented by m features:

$$E = e_1 \wedge e_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge e_m$$

- The elements will be exponential in m so there are not enough training examples to estimate $P(E | c_i)$



Naïve Bayes Classifiers

- The *features* are assumed to be independent given a category (c_i).

$$P(E \mid c_i) = P(e_1 \wedge e_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge e_m \mid c_i) = \prod_{j=1}^m P(e_j \mid c_i)$$

- This allows us to only estimate $P(e_j \mid c_i)$ for each *feature* and category.



An example of the Naïve Bayes Classifier

- $C = \{\text{Allergy, Cold, Healthy}\}$
- $e_1 = \text{sneeze}; e_2 = \text{cough}; e_3 = \text{fever}$
- $E = \{\text{sneeze, cough, } \neg\text{fever}\}$

Prob	Healthy	Cold	Allergy
$P(c_i)$	0.9	0.05	0.05
$P(\text{sneeze} c_i)$	0.1	0.9	0.9
$P(\text{cough} c_i)$	0.1	0.8	0.7
$P(\text{fever} c_i)$	0.01	0.7	0.4



An example of the Naïve Bayes Classifier (cont.)

Probability	Healthy	Cold	Allergy
$P(c_i)$	0.9	0.05	0.05
$P(\text{sneeze} c_i)$	0.1	0.9	0.9
$P(\text{cough} c_i)$	0.1	0.8	0.7
$P(\text{fever} c_i)$	0.01	0.7	0.4

$E = \{\text{sneeze, cough, } \neg \text{fever}\}$

$$P(\text{Healthy} | E) = (0.9)(0.1)(0.1)(0.99)/P(E) = 0.0089/P(E)$$

$$P(\text{Cold} | E) = (0.05)(0.9)(0.8)(0.3)/P(E) = 0.01/P(E)$$

$$P(\text{Allergy} | E) = (0.05)(0.9)(0.7)(0.6)/P(E) = 0.019/P(E)$$

The most probable category is allergy

$$P(E) = 0.0089 + 0.01 + 0.019 = 0.0379$$

$$P(\text{Healthy} | E) = 0.23, P(\text{Cold} | E) = 0.26, P(\text{Allergy} | E) = 0.50$$



Probability Estimation

- Estimate counts from training data.
- Let n_i be the number of examples in c_i
- let n_{ij} be the number of examples of c_i containing the feature e_j , then:

$$P(e_j | c_i) = \frac{n_{ij}}{n_i}$$

- Problems: the data set may still be too small.
- For rare features we may have, $e_k, \forall c_i : P(e_k | c_i) = 0$.



Smoothing

- The probabilities are estimated even if they are not in the data
- Laplace smoothing
 - each feature has a priori probability, p ,
 - We assume that such feature has been observed in an example of size m .

$$P(e_j | c_i) = \frac{n_{ij} + mp}{n_i + m}$$



Naïve Bayes for text classification

- “bag of words” model
 - The examples are category documents
 - Features: Vocabulary $V = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\}$
 - $P(w_j | c_i)$ is the probability to have w_j in a category i
- Let us use the Laplace’s smoothing
 - Uniform distribution ($p = 1/|V|$) and $m = |V|$
 - That is each word is assumed to appear exactly one time in a category



Training (version 1)

- V is built using all training documents D
- For each category $c_i \in C$

Let D_i the document subset of D in c_i

$$\Rightarrow P(c_i) = |D_i| / |D|$$

n_i is the total number of words in D_i

for each $w_j \in V$, n_{ij} is the counts of w_j in c_i

$$\Rightarrow P(w_j | c_i) = (n_{ij} + 1) / (n_i + |V|)$$



Testing

- Given a test document X
- Let n be the number of words of X
- The assigned category is:

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{c_i \in C} P(c_i) \prod_{j=1}^n P(a_j | c_i)$$

where a_j is a word at the j -th position in X



Vector Spaces



Definition (1)

- A set V is a **vector space** over a field F (for example, the field of real or of complex numbers) if, given
 - an operation *vector **addition*** defined in V , denoted $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}$ (where $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in V$), and
 - an operation *scalar **multiplication*** in V , denoted $a * \mathbf{v}$ (where $\mathbf{v} \in V$ and $a \in F$),
 - the following properties hold for all $a, b \in F$ and $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$, and $\mathbf{w} \in V$:
 - $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}$ belongs to V .
(Closure of V under vector addition.)
 - $\mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w}$.
(Associativity of vector addition in V .)
 - There exists a neutral element $\mathbf{0}$ in V , such that for all elements $\mathbf{v}$ in V , $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{v}$.
(Existence of an additive identity element in V .)
-



Definition (2)

- For all $\mathbf{v}$ in V , there exists an element $\mathbf{w}$ in V , such that $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$.
(Existence of additive inverses in V .)
- $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{v}$.
(Commutativity of vector addition in V .)
- $a * \mathbf{v}$ belongs to V .
(Closure of V under scalar multiplication.)
- $a * (b * \mathbf{v}) = (ab) * \mathbf{v}$.
(Associativity of scalar multiplication in V .)
- If 1 denotes the multiplicative identity of the field F , then $1 * \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}$.
(Neutrality of one.)
- $a * (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = a * \mathbf{v} + a * \mathbf{w}$.
(Distributivity with respect to vector addition.)
- $(a + b) * \mathbf{v} = a * \mathbf{v} + b * \mathbf{v}$.
(Distributivity with respect to field addition.)



An example of Vector Space

- For all n $\mathbf{R}^n$ forms a vector space over $\mathbf{R}$, with component-wise operations.
- Let $\mathbf{V}$ be the set of all n -tuples, $[v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n]$ where v_i , for $i=\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$ is a member of $\mathbf{R}=\{\text{real numbers}\}$. Let the field be $\mathbf{R}$, as well.

Define Vector Addition:

For all v, w , in $\mathbf{V}$, define $v+w=[v_1+w_1, v_2+w_2, v_3+w_3, \dots, v_n+w_n]$.

Define Scalar Multiplication:

For all a in $\mathbf{F}$ and v in $\mathbf{V}$, $a*v=[a*v_1, a*v_2, a*v_3, \dots, a*v_n]$. Then $\mathbf{V}$ is a Vector Space over $\mathbf{R}$.



Linear dependency

- Linear combination:
- $\alpha_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{v}_n = 0$ for some $\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n$ not all zero
 $\Rightarrow y = \alpha_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{v}_n$ has a unique expression.
- In case $\alpha_i > 0$ and the sum is 1 it is called convex combination



Normed Vector Spaces

- If V is a vector space over a field K , a norm on V is a function from V to $\mathbf{R}$,
- it associates each vector $\mathbf{v}$ in V with a real number, $\|\mathbf{v}\|$.
- The norm must satisfy the following conditions:
 - For all a in K and all $\mathbf{u}$ and $\mathbf{v}$ in V ,
 1. $\|\mathbf{v}\| \geq 0$ with equality if and only if $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$.
 2. $\|a\mathbf{v}\| = |a| \|\mathbf{v}\|$.
 3. $\|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}\| \leq \|\mathbf{u}\| + \|\mathbf{v}\|$.
- A useful consequence of the norm axioms is the inequality
 - $\|\mathbf{u} \pm \mathbf{v}\| \geq | \|\mathbf{u}\| - \|\mathbf{v}\| |$
- for all vectors $\mathbf{u}$ and $\mathbf{v}$.



Inner Product Spaces

- Let V be a vector space and $\mathbf{u}$, $\mathbf{v}$, and $\mathbf{w}$ be vectors in V and c be a constant.
- Then, an *inner product* $(\ , \)$ on V is a function with domain consisting of pairs of vectors and range real numbers satisfying the following properties.
 1. $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}) \geq 0$ with equality if and only if $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$.
 2. $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u})$
 3. $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}) = (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{w}) + (\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w})$
 4. $(c\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{u}, c\mathbf{v}) = c(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})$



Example

- Let V be the vector space consisting of all continuous functions with the standard $+$ and $*$. Then define an inner product by

$$(f, g) = \int_0^1 f(t)g(t)dt$$

- For example: $(x, x^2) = \int_0^1 (x)(x^2)dx = \frac{1}{4}$

- The four properties follow immediately from the analogous property of the definite integral:

$$(f + g, h) = \int_0^1 (f + g)(t)h(t) dt$$

$$= \int_0^1 (f(t)h(t) + g(t)h(t)) dt = \int_0^1 f(t)h(t) dt + \int_0^1 g(t)h(t) dt$$

$$= (f, h) + (g, h)$$



Inner Product Properties

- $(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{0}) = 0$
- $\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v})}$
- If $(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u}) = 0$, $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u}$ are called orthogonal
- Schwarz Inequality:
 - $[(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u})]^2 \leq (\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v})(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u})$
- The classical scalar product is the component-wise product
- $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = (x_1 y_1, x_2 y_2, \dots, x_n y_n)$
- $$\cos(u, v) = \frac{(u, v)}{\|\mathbf{u}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{v}\|}$$



Similarity Metrics

- The simplest distance for continuous m -dimensional instance space is *Euclidian distance*.
- The simplest distance for m -dimensional binary instance space is *Hamming distance* (number of feature values that differ).
- For text, cosine similarity is typically most effective.



END



Training (version 2)

- V is built using all training documents D

- For each category $c_i \in C$

Let D_i the document subset of D in c_i

$$\Rightarrow P(c_i) = |D_i| / |D|$$

n_i is the total number of pairs $\langle w, d \rangle$, $w \in d \in D_i$ and $w \in V$.

- For each $w_j \in V$,

n_{ij} is the number of documents of c_i containing w_j that is the number of pairs $\langle w_j, d \rangle$ such that $d \in D_i$

$$\Rightarrow P(w_j | c_i) = (n_{ij} + 1) / (n_i + |V|)$$

