COMP 465
Data Mining
Data Preprocessing

Slides Adapted From : Jiawei Han, Micheline Kamber & Jian Pei
Data Mining: Concepts and Techniques, 3rd ed.

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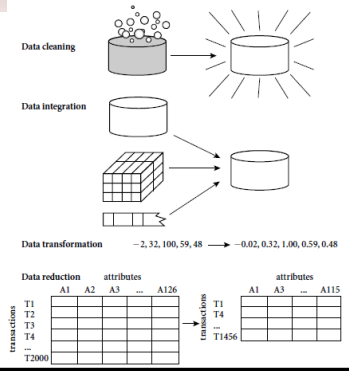
Major Tasks in Data Preprocessing



Data Reduction Strategies

- **Data reduction**: Obtain a reduced representation of the data set that is much smaller in volume but yet produces the same (or almost the same) analytical results
- Why data reduction? — A database/data warehouse may store terabytes of data. Complex data analysis may take a very long time to run on the complete data set.
- Data reduction strategies
  - Dimensionality reduction, e.g., remove unimportant attributes
    - Wavelet transforms
    - Principal Components Analysis (PCA)
    - Feature subset selection, feature creation
  - Numerosity reduction (some simply call it: Data Reduction)
    - Regression and Log-Linear Models
    - Histograms, clustering, sampling
    - Data cube aggregation
  - Data compression

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Data Reduction 1: Dimensionality Reduction

- **Curse of dimensionality**
  - When dimensionality increases, data becomes increasingly sparse
  - Density and distance between points, which is critical to clustering, outlier analysis, becomes less meaningful
  - The possible combinations of subspaces will grow exponentially
- **Dimensionality reduction**
  - Avoid the curse of dimensionality
  - Help eliminate irrelevant features and reduce noise
  - Reduce time and space required in data mining
  - Allow easier visualization
- **Dimensionality reduction techniques**
  - Wavelet transforms
  - Principal Component Analysis
  - Supervised and nonlinear techniques (e.g., feature selection)

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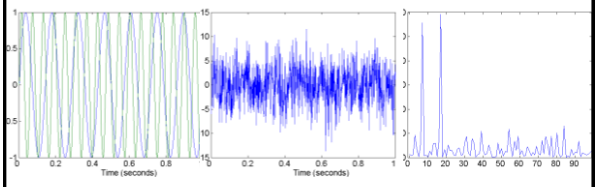
Mapping Data to a New Space

- **Fourier transform**
- **Wavelet transform**



Two Sine Waves | Two Sine Waves + Noise | Frequency

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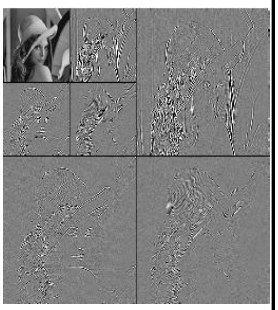
What Is Wavelet Transform?

- Decomposes a signal into different frequency subbands
  - Applicable to n-dimensional signals
- Data are transformed to preserve relative distance between objects at different levels of resolution
- Allow natural clusters to become more distinguishable
- Used for image compression



Wavelet Transformation

- Discrete wavelet transform (DWT) for linear signal processing, multi-resolution analysis
- Compressed approximation: store only a small fraction of the strongest of the wavelet coefficients
- Similar to discrete Fourier transform (DFT), but better lossy compression, localized in space
- Method:
  - Length, L, must be an integer power of 2 (padding with 0's, when necessary)
  - Each transform has 2 functions: smoothing, difference
  - Applies to pairs of data, resulting in two set of data of length L/2
  - Applies two functions recursively, until reaches the desired length

Wavelet Decomposition

- Wavelets: A math tool for space-efficient hierarchical decomposition of functions
- S = [2, 2, 0, 2, 3, 5, 4, 4] can be transformed to $S_{\wedge}$ = [$2^{3}/_{4}$, $-1^{1}/_{4}$, $^{1}/_{2}$, 0, 0, -1, -1, 0]
- Compression: many small detail coefficients can be replaced by 0's, and only the significant coefficients are retained

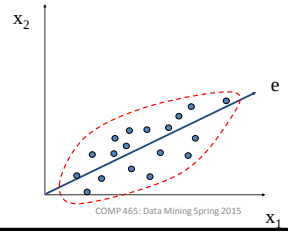
Resolution	Averages	Detail Coefficients
8	$[2, 2, 0, 2, 3, 5, 4, 4]$	
4	$[2, 1, 4, 4]$	$[0, -1, -1, 0]$
2	$[1\frac{1}{2}, 4]$	$[\frac{1}{2}, 0]$
1	$[2\frac{3}{4}]$	$[-1\frac{1}{4}]$

Why Wavelet Transform?

- Use hat-shape filters
  - Emphasize region where points cluster
  - Suppress weaker information in their boundaries
- Effective removal of outliers
  - Insensitive to noise, insensitive to input order
- Multi-resolution
  - Detect arbitrary shaped clusters at different scales
- Efficient
  - Complexity O(N)
- Only applicable to low dimensional data

Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

- Find a projection that captures the largest amount of variation in data
- The original data are projected onto a much smaller space, resulting in dimensionality reduction. We find the eigenvectors of the covariance matrix, and these eigenvectors define the new space



Principal Component Analysis (Steps)

- Given *N* data vectors from *n*-dimensions, find $k \leq n$ orthogonal vectors (*principal components*) that can be best used to represent data
  - Normalize input data: Each attribute falls within the same range
  - Compute *k* orthonormal (unit) vectors, i.e., *principal components*
  - Each input data (vector) is a linear combination of the *k* principal component vectors
  - The principal components are sorted in order of decreasing "significance" or strength
  - Since the components are sorted, the size of the data can be reduced by eliminating the *weak components*, i.e., those with low variance (i.e., using the strongest principal components, it is possible to reconstruct a good approximation of the original data)
- Works for numeric data only

Attribute Subset Selection

- Another way to reduce dimensionality of data
- Redundant attributes
  - Duplicate much or all of the information contained in one or more other attributes
  - E.g., purchase price of a product and the amount of sales tax paid
- Irrelevant attributes
  - Contain no information that is useful for the data mining task at hand
  - E.g., students' ID is often irrelevant to the task of predicting students' GPA

Heuristic Search in Attribute Selection

- There are 2^d possible attribute combinations of d attributes
- Typical heuristic attribute selection methods:
  - Best single attribute under the attribute independence assumption: choose by significance tests
  - Best step-wise feature selection:
    - The best single-attribute is picked first
    - Then next best attribute condition to the first, …
  - Step-wise attribute elimination:
    - Repeatedly eliminate the worst attribute
  - Best combined attribute selection and elimination
  - Optimal branch and bound:
    - Use attribute elimination and backtracking

Attribute Creation (Feature Generation)

- Create new attributes (features) that can capture the important information in a data set more effectively than the original ones
- Three general methodologies
  - Attribute extraction
    - Domain-specific
  - Mapping data to new space (see: data reduction)
    - E.g., Fourier transformation, wavelet transformation, manifold approaches (not covered)
  - Attribute construction
    - Combining features (see: discriminative frequent patterns in Chapter on "Advanced Classification")
    - Data discretization

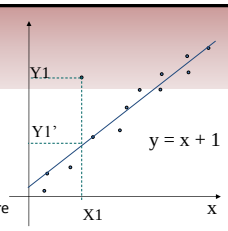
Data Reduction 2: Numerosity Reduction

- Reduce data volume by choosing alternative, *smaller forms* of data representation
- **Parametric methods** (e.g., regression)
  - Assume the data fits some model, estimate model parameters, store only the parameters, and discard the data (except possible outliers)
  - Ex.: Log-linear models—obtain value at a point in m-D space as the product on appropriate marginal subspaces
- **Non-parametric** methods
  - Do not assume models
  - Major families: histograms, clustering, sampling, …

Parametric Data Reduction: Regression and Log-Linear Models

- **Linear regression**
  - Data modeled to fit a straight line
  - Often uses the least-square method to fit the line
- **Multiple regression**
  - Allows a response variable Y to be modeled as a linear function of multidimensional feature vector
- **Log-linear model**
  - Approximates discrete multidimensional probability distributions

Regression Analysis



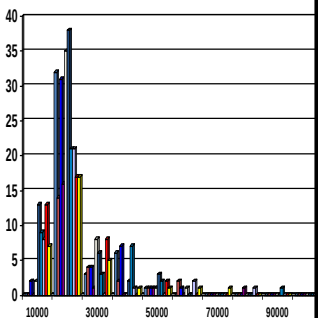
- Regression analysis: A collective name for techniques for the modeling and analysis of numerical data consisting of values of a ***dependent variable*** (also called ***response variable*** or *measurement*) and of one or more *independent variables* (aka. ***explanatory variables*** or ***predictors***)
- The parameters are estimated so as to give a "**best fit**" of the data
- Most commonly the best fit is evaluated by using the ***least squares method***, but other criteria have also been used
- Used for prediction (including forecasting of time-series data), inference, hypothesis testing, and modeling of causal relationships

Regress Analysis and Log-Linear Models

- Linear regression: $Y = w X + b$
  - Two regression coefficients, w and b, specify the line and are to be estimated by using the data at hand
  - Using the least squares criterion to the known values of $Y_1, Y_2, \ldots, X_1, X_2, \ldots$.
- Multiple regression: $Y = b_0 + b_1 X_1 + b_2 X_2$
  - Many nonlinear functions can be transformed into the above
- Log-linear models:
  - Approximate discrete multidimensional probability distributions
  - Estimate the probability of each point (tuple) in a multi-dimensional space for a set of discretized attributes, based on a smaller subset of dimensional combinations
  - Useful for dimensionality reduction and data smoothing

Histogram Analysis

- Divide data into buckets and store average (sum) for each bucket
- Partitioning rules:
  - Equal-width: equal bucket range
  - Equal-frequency (or equal-depth)



Clustering

- Partition data set into clusters based on similarity, and store cluster representation (e.g., centroid and diameter) only
- Can be very effective if data is clustered but not if data is "smeared"
- Can have hierarchical clustering and be stored in multi-dimensional index tree structures
- There are many choices of clustering definitions and clustering algorithms
- Cluster analysis will be studied in depth in Chapters 10 & 11

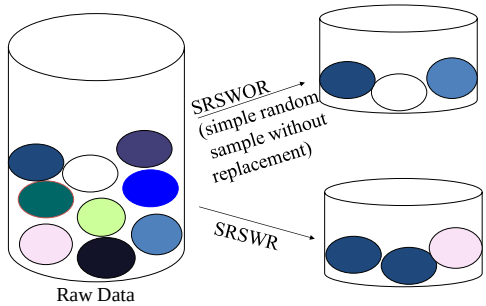
Sampling

- Sampling: obtaining a small sample *s* to represent the whole data set *N*
- Allow a mining algorithm to run in complexity that is potentially sub-linear to the size of the data
- Key principle: Choose a representative subset of the data
  - Simple random sampling may have very poor performance in the presence of skew
  - Develop adaptive sampling methods, e.g., stratified sampling:
- Note: Sampling may not reduce database I/Os (page at a time)

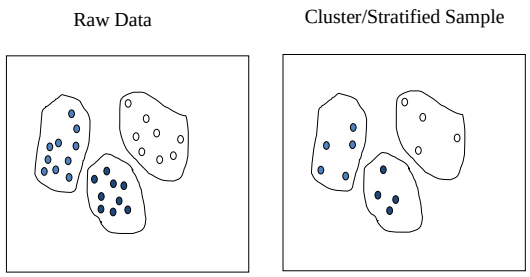
Types of Sampling

- **Simple random sampling**
  - There is an equal probability of selecting any particular item
- **Sampling without replacement**
  - Once an object is selected, it is removed from the population
- **Sampling with replacement**
  - A selected object is not removed from the population
- **Stratified sampling:**
  - Partition the data set, and draw samples from each partition (proportionally, i.e., approximately the same percentage of the data)
  - Used in conjunction with skewed data

Sampling: With or without Replacement



Sampling: Cluster or Stratified Sampling



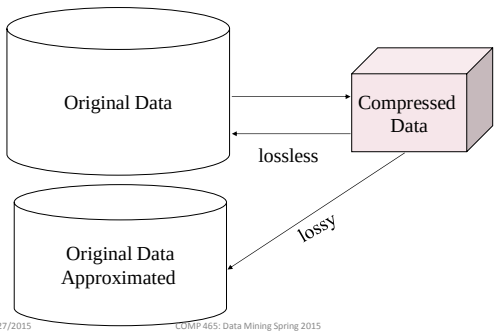
Data Cube Aggregation

- The lowest level of a data cube (base cuboid)
  - The aggregated data for an individual entity of interest
  - E.g., a customer in a phone calling data warehouse
- Multiple levels of aggregation in data cubes
  - Further reduce the size of data to deal with
- Reference appropriate levels
  - Use the smallest representation which is enough to solve the task
- Queries regarding aggregated information should be answered using data cube, when possible

Data Reduction 3: Data Compression

- String compression
  - There are extensive theories and well-tuned algorithms
  - Typically lossless, but only limited manipulation is possible without expansion
- Audio/video compression
  - Typically lossy compression, with progressive refinement
  - Sometimes small fragments of signal can be reconstructed without reconstructing the whole
- Time sequence is not audio
  - Typically short and vary slowly with time
- Dimensionality and numerosity reduction may also be considered as forms of data compression

Data Compression



Data Transformation

- A function that maps the entire set of values of a given attribute to a new set of replacement values s.t. each old value can be identified with one of the new values
- Methods
  - Smoothing: Remove noise from data
  - Attribute/feature construction
    - New attributes constructed from the given ones
  - Aggregation: Summarization, data cube construction
  - Normalization: Scaled to fall within a smaller, specified range
    - min-max normalization
    - z-score normalization
    - normalization by decimal scaling
  - Discretization: Concept hierarchy climbing

Normalization

- **Min-max normalization**: to [new_min$_A$, new_max$_A$]

$$v' = \frac{v - min_A}{max_A - min_A}(new\_max_A - new\_min_A) + new\_min_A$$

  - Ex. Let income range \$12,000 to \$98,000 normalized to [0.0, 1.0]. Then \$73,000 is mapped to $\frac{73{,}600 - 12{,}000}{98{,}000 - 12{,}000}(1.0 - 0) + 0 = 0.716$

- **Z-score normalization** (μ: mean, σ: standard deviation):

$$v' = \frac{v - \mu_A}{\sigma_A}$$

  - Ex. Let μ = 54,000, σ = 16,000. Then $\frac{73{,}600 - 54{,}000}{16{,}000} = 1.225$

- **Normalization by decimal scaling**

$$v' = \frac{v}{10^j} \quad \text{Where } j \text{ is the smallest integer such that Max}(|v'|) < 1$$

Discretization

- Three types of attributes
  - Nominal—values from an unordered set, e.g., color, profession
  - Ordinal—values from an ordered set, e.g., military or academic rank
  - Numeric—real numbers, e.g., integer or real numbers
- Discretization: Divide the range of a continuous attribute into intervals
  - Interval labels can then be used to replace actual data values
  - Reduce data size by discretization
  - Supervised vs. unsupervised
  - Split (top-down) vs. merge (bottom-up)
  - Discretization can be performed recursively on an attribute
  - Prepare for further analysis, e.g., classification

Data Discretization Methods

- Typical methods: All the methods can be applied recursively
  - Binning
    - Top-down split, unsupervised
  - Histogram analysis
    - Top-down split, unsupervised
  - Clustering analysis (unsupervised, top-down split or bottom-up merge)
  - Decision-tree analysis (supervised, top-down split)
  - Correlation (e.g., χ^2) analysis (unsupervised, bottom-up merge)

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Simple Discretization: Binning

- Equal-width (distance) partitioning
  - Divides the range into *N* intervals of equal size: uniform grid
  - if *A* and *B* are the lowest and highest values of the attribute, the width of intervals will be: $W = (B - A)/N$.
  - The most straightforward, but outliers may dominate presentation
  - Skewed data is not handled well
- Equal-depth (frequency) partitioning
  - Divides the range into *N* intervals, each containing approximately same number of samples
  - Good data scaling
  - Managing categorical attributes can be tricky

Binning Methods for Data Smoothing

Sorted data for price (in dollars): 4, 8, 9, 15, 21, 21, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 34

* Partition into equal-frequency (**equi-depth**) bins:
  - Bin 1: 4, 8, 9, 15
  - Bin 2: 21, 21, 24, 25
  - Bin 3: 26, 28, 29, 34
* Smoothing by **bin means**:
  - Bin 1: 9, 9, 9, 9
  - Bin 2: 23, 23, 23, 23
  - Bin 3: 29, 29, 29, 29
* Smoothing by **bin boundaries**:
  - Bin 1: 4, 4, 4, 15
  - Bin 2: 21, 21, 25, 25
  - Bin 3: 26, 26, 26, 34

Discretization by Classification & Correlation Analysis

- Classification (e.g., decision tree analysis)
  - Supervised: Given class labels, e.g., cancerous vs. benign
  - Using *entropy* to determine split point (discretization point)
  - Top-down, recursive split
  - Details to be covered in Chapter "Classification"
- Correlation analysis (e.g., Chi-merge: χ^2-based discretization)
  - Supervised: use class information
  - Bottom-up merge: find the best neighboring intervals (those having similar distributions of classes, i.e., low χ^2 values) to merge
  - Merge performed recursively, until a predefined stopping condition

Concept Hierarchy Generation

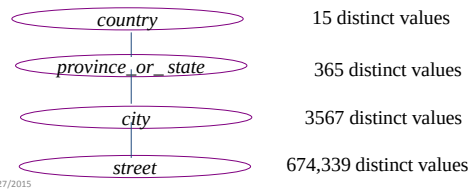
- **Concept hierarchy** organizes concepts (i.e., attribute values) hierarchically and is usually associated with each dimension in a data warehouse
- Concept hierarchies facilitate drilling and rolling in data warehouses to view data in multiple granularity
- Concept hierarchy formation: Recursively reduce the data by collecting and replacing low level concepts (such as numeric values for *age*) by higher level concepts (such as *youth, adult*, or *senior*)
- Concept hierarchies can be explicitly specified by domain experts and/or data warehouse designers
- Concept hierarchy can be automatically formed for both numeric and nominal data—For numeric data, use discretization methods shown

Concept Hierarchy Generation for Nominal Data

- Specification of a partial/total ordering of attributes explicitly at the schema level by users or experts
  - *street* < *city* < *state* < *country*
- Specification of a hierarchy for a set of values by explicit data grouping
  - {Urbana, Champaign, Chicago} < Illinois
- Specification of only a partial set of attributes
  - E.g., only *street* < *city*, not others
- Automatic generation of hierarchies (or attribute levels) by the analysis of the number of distinct values
  - E.g., for a set of attributes: {*street, city, state, country*}

Automatic Concept Hierarchy Generation

- Some hierarchies can be automatically generated based on the analysis of the number of distinct values per attribute in the data set
  - The attribute with the most distinct values is placed at the lowest level of the hierarchy
  - Exceptions, e.g., weekday, month, quarter, year



Summary

- **Data quality**: accuracy, completeness, consistency, timeliness, believability, interpretability
- **Data cleaning**: e.g. missing/noisy values, outliers
- **Data integration** from multiple sources:
  - Entity identification problem; Remove redundancies; Detect inconsistencies
- **Data reduction**
  - Dimensionality reduction; Numerosity reduction; Data compression
- **Data transformation and data discretization**
  - Normalization; Concept hierarchy generation