Instance Based Learning (K Nearest Neighbors)

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Introduction

- What is kNN?
- My implementation
- Improvements
- Examples in the real world

What is KNN?

• Finds the k nearest of instances and chooses the most common data class from the k entries.

History

• First used in the 1960's

• Diagnosis in 1980's

```
Enter the file name with extension: Test.txt

Enter the number of neighbors: 5
Classified as: 1.0, Actual: 2.0
Classified as: 2.0, Actual: 2.0
Classified as: 2.0, Actual: 1.0
```

```
public static class DataEntry{
     private ArrayList<Double> data;
     private Object result;
     public DataEntry(ArrayList<Double> x, Object y){
         data = x;
         result = y;
         public ArrayList<Double> getX(){
             return data;
         public Object getY(){
             return result;
```

```
private static double convertDistance(double d){
    return 1.0/d;
* Computes Euclidean distance
* @param a From
* @param b To
* @return Distance
public static double distance(DataEntry a, DataEntry b){
    double distance = 0.0;
    int length = a.getX().size();
    for(int i = 0; i < length; i++){
        double t = a.getX().get(i)-b.getX().get(i);
        distance = distance+t*t;
    return Math.sqrt(distance);
```

```
private DataEntry[] getNearestNeighbors(DataEntry x){
    //Set classes
    DataEntry[] nearestType = new DataEntry[this.numberOfNeighbors];
    double nearest = Double.MIN_VALUE;
    int index = 0;
    for(DataEntry tempEntry : this.dataSet){
        //Euclidean distance for every other element in the set
        double distance = distance(x,tempEntry);
        //initialize neighbors
        if(nearestType[nearestType.length-1] == null){
            int j = 0;
            while(j < nearestType.length){</pre>
                if(nearestType[j] == null){
                    nearestType[j] = tempEntry; break;
                j++;
            //Find the nearest data class
            if(distance > nearest){
                index = j;
                nearest = distance;
        else{
            //if there is a closer class
            if(distance < nearest){</pre>
                nearestType[index] = tempEntry;
                double f = 0.0;
                int ind = 0;
                for(int j = 0; j < nearestType.length; j++){</pre>
                    double tempDist = distance(nearestType[j],x);
                    if(tempDist > f){
                        f = tempDist;
                         ind = j;
                nearest = f;
```

```
* Actually performs the classification of the given data.
 * @param e Entry to be classified
 * @return The class of the most probable class
public Object classify(DataEntry e){
    HashMap<Object, Double> classcount = new HashMap<Object, Double>();
   //Get the classes
   DataEntry[] entry = this.getNearestNeighbors(e);
   //Initialize hash map of the data values
    for(int i = 0; i < entry.length; i++){</pre>
        double distance = NearestNeighbour.convertDistance(NearestNeighbour.distance(entry[i], e));
        if(!classcount.containsKey(entry[i].getY())){
            classcount.put(entry[i].getY(), distance);
        else{
            classcount.put(entry[i].getY(), classcount.get(entry[i].getY())+distance);
   //Find right choice
   Object o = null;
   double max = 0;
    for(Object ob : classcount.keySet()){
        if(classcount.get(ob) > max){
            max = classcount.get(ob);
            o = ob;
    return o;
```

```
Classified as: 1.0, Actual: 1.0
Classified as: 2.0, Actual: 2.0
Classified as: 2.0, Actual: 2.0
Classified as: 2.0, Actual: 2.0
Classified as: 1.0, Actual: 1.0
Classified as: 2.0, Actual: 1.0
Classified as: 1.0, Actual: 2.0
Classified as: 1.0, Actual: 1.0
```

Results

• DeerHunter: 67%-70%

Improvements

- Distance calculation
- Weight dimensions
- Choose examples to add to data set
- Fuzzy logic

Examples

- 2011 bankruptcy prediction: 81%
- Image recognition
- Tumor identification

Summary

- Simple classification method
- Distance measurement most important aspect
- Can be customized to data sets
- Commonly used in a range of applications