



# Data preprocessing

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# Data preprocessing

## Why data preprocessing?

- Real world data can be **incomplete, noisy** and **inconsistent** form.
- These data needs to be preprocessed in order to help improve the **quality of the data**, and **quality of the mining results**.



# Several data preprocessing techniques

- Data cleaning
  - Applied to remove noise, inconsistent data
- Data integration
  - Merges data from multiple sources
- Data reduction
  - Reduce data size by aggregating, eliminating redundant features
- Data transformations
  - Normalization – data are scaled to fall within a smaller range(0.0 to 1.0) -> improves accuracy & efficiency



# Why preprocess the data?

- Factors comprising data quality
  - Accuracy
  - Completeness
  - Consistency
  - Timeliness
  - Believability
  - interpretability



# Data preprocessing techniques/ major tasks in data preprocessing

- **Data cleaning**
  - Fill in missing values, smoothing noisy data, identifying or removing outliers, and resolve inconsistencies
- **Data integration**
  - Integration of multiple databases, data cubes, or files
- **Data reduction**
  - reduce the data size by aggregating, eliminating, or clustering etc
  - Strategy: Dimensionality Reduction :
    - Data encoding schemes are applied to obtain reduced or compressed data
    - Data Compression technique: Eg. Wavelet transforms, PCA (Principal Component Analysis)
    - Attribute subset selection: Eg. Removing irrelevant attributes
    - Attribute construction: Eg. Small set of more useful attributes derived from original set
  - Strategy: Numerosity Reduction
    - Data replaced by alternative, smaller representation using parametric models (eg. Regression or log-linear models) or nonparametric models (e.g histograms, clusters, sampling or data aggregation)
- **Data transformation**
  - The data are transformed or consolidated into forms appropriate for mining.
  - Normalization, Data discretization, concept hierarchy



# Data cleaning

- Data in the Real World Is Dirty: Lots of potentially incorrect data, e.g., **instrument faulty, human or computer error, transmission error**
  - incomplete: lacking attribute values, lacking certain attributes of interest, or containing only aggregate data
    - e.g., *Occupation* = “ ” (missing data)
  - noisy: containing noise, errors, or outliers
    - e.g., *Salary* = “-10” (an error)
  - inconsistent: containing discrepancies in codes or names, e.g.,
    - *Age* = “42”, *Birthday* = “03/07/2010”



# How to Handle Missing Data?

- **Ignore the tuple**
  - (If Class label miss), not effective
- **Fill in the missing value manually**
  - Time consuming & not feasible
- **Fill in it automatically with**
  - a global constant (unknown or infinity symbol), simple but mining program consider unknown as one class
  - Use a measure of central tendency for the attribute mean (eg mean or median)
    - Mean – symmetric data
    - Median – skewed data (positive skewed – values < median, negative skewed – values > median)
  - the attribute mean for all samples belonging to the same class
    - eg if classified customer according to credit risk, may replace the missing value with mean value for customers in same credit risk category
    - If data distribution skewed – median value is better choice
  - the most probable value
    - Determined based on regression, inference-based tools using Bayesian or decision tree induction



# Noisy Data

- What is noise?
- Random error or variance in a measured variable





# How to Handle Noisy Data?

- **Binning**
  - Smooth a sorted data value by consulting its neighborhood i.e the values around it.
  - first sort data and partition into (equal-frequency) bins or buckets
  - then one can **smooth by bin means, smooth by bin median, smooth by bin boundaries**, etc.
- **Regression**
  - smooth by fitting the data into regression functions
  - Linear Regression –finding best line to fit two attributes or variables so that one attribute used to predict other
  - Multiple Linear Regression – more than two attributes involved
- **Outlier Analysis – detected by Clustering**
  - detect and remove outliers



- Data smoothing methods are also used for
  - Data discretization (transformation) & data reduction



# Binning - Example

- Sorted data for price (in dollars): 4, 8, 9, 15, 21, 21, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 34
- \* Partition into equal-frequency (**equal-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



# Data Cleaning as a Process

- **Data discrepancy detection**

- first step in data cleaning

Caused by several factors: poorly designed data entry forms , human errors in data entry, deliberate errors (don't like to give infor.) data decay(outdated addresses), errors in instrumentation devices

- Uses the knowledge of metadata

- Check unique rule, consecutive rule and null rule

- Use commercial tools

- Data scrubbing: use simple domain knowledge (e.g., spell-check) **to detect errors and make corrections**

- Data auditing: by **analyzing data to discover rules** and relationship (e.g., correlation and clustering to find outliers)

- **Data transformation**

- Data migration tools: allow transformations to be specified eg. Replace the string “roll no” by “serial no”

- ETL (Extraction/Transformation/Loading) tools: allow users to specify transformations through a **graphical user interface**



# Data Integration

- **Data integration:**
  - Combines data from multiple sources into a coherent store
  - Integrate metadata from different sources
- **Entity identification problem:**
  - Issue in integration: **Schema Integration and Object matching**
  - How equivalent real-world entities from multiple data sources be matched? – entity Identification Problem
  - Same entity can be represented in different forms, e.g., customer-id == cust-number
  - Metadata can be used to avoid errors in schema integration
- **Redundancy and correlation analysis** – is another issue. It can be detected by **correlation analysis**
- **Tuple Duplication**
- **Detecting and resolving data value conflicts**
  - For the same real world entity, attribute values from different sources are different
  - Possible reasons: different representations, different scales, e.g., metric vs. British units(imperial units)



# Redundancy and Correlation Analysis

- Correlation analysis
- Given two attributes, correlation analysis measure how strongly one attribute implies on another.
- Nominal Data -  $X^2$  (chi-square) test
- Numeric attributes – correlation coefficient & covariance



# $\chi^2$ correlation for Nominal Data

- Correlation between two attributes A and B discovered by chi-square test
- A has c distinct values namely,  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_c$
- B has r distinct values namely  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_r$
- Data tuples between A and B shown as contingency table, with c values of A making up columns and r values of B making up rows.

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(\textit{Observed} - \textit{Expected})^2}{\textit{Expected}}$$

The larger the  $\chi^2$  value, the more likely the variables are related



## Contd..,

Observed frequency – actual count

Expected frequency can be calculated as

$$e_{ij}(\text{Expected}) = \frac{\text{count}(A = a_i) * \text{count}(B = b_j)}{n}$$

N – number of data tuples

$\text{count}(A = a_i)$  - no. of tuples having value  $a_i$

$\text{count}(B = b_j)$  - no. of tuples having value  $b_j$





# Example – chi-square calculation

- Problem:
  - 1500 people
  - Gender of each person noted
  - Preferred type of reading material – fiction or nonfiction
- Two attributes: gender & preferred\_reading
- Observed frequency from contingency table:

	Male	Female	Total
Fiction	250(90)	200(360)	450
Non-fiction	50(210)	1000(840)	1050
Total	300	1200	1500

- Expected frequency of cell(male, fiction) is as follows

$$e_{11} = [\text{count}(\text{male}) * \text{count}(\text{fiction})] / n = (300 * 450) / 1500 = 90$$



- Chi-square calculation:

$$\chi^2 = \frac{(250 - 90)^2}{90} + \frac{(50 - 210)^2}{210} + \frac{(200 - 360)^2}{360} + \frac{(1000 - 840)^2}{840} = 507.93$$

- 2\*2 table, DF(Degree of Freedom) = (2-1)\*(2-1) = 1
- For DF =1, value needed to reject hypothesis at 0.001level is 10.828
- Hence calculated value is (507.93) > 10.828, can reject gender and preferred\_reading attributes are independent and conclude that they are strongly correlated



# Example

- The number of students passed in exam and number of students who live near to the university is correlated with each other and maybe a number of students who live near to the university can be a cause of the student result.

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<b>Live near University</b>	Observed= <b>140</b> Expected = $180 \cdot 330 / 1320$ Expected = <b>45</b>	Observed= <b>190</b> Expected = $1140 \cdot 330 / 1320$ Expected = <b>285</b>	<b>330</b>
<b>Not live near University</b>	Observed= <b>40</b> Expected = $180 \cdot 990 / 1320$ Expected = <b>135</b>	Observed= <b>950</b> Expected = $1140 \cdot 990 / 1320$ Expected = <b>855</b>	<b>990</b>
<b>Sum</b>	$140 + 40 =$ <b>180</b>	$190 + 950 =$ <b>1140</b>	<b>1320</b>



# Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Chi-Square} &= \sum \frac{(\text{Observed} - \text{Expected})^2}{\text{Expected}} \\ &= \frac{(140 - 45)^2}{45} + \frac{(40 - 135)^2}{135} + \frac{(190 - 285)^2}{285} + \frac{(950 - 855)^2}{855} \\ &= \frac{(95)^2}{45} + \frac{(-95)^2}{135} + \frac{(-95)^2}{285} + \frac{(95)^2}{855} \\ &= \frac{(9025)}{45} + \frac{(9025)}{135} + \frac{(9025)}{285} + \frac{(9025)}{855} \\ &= 200.55 + 66.85 + 31.66 + 10.55 \\ &= 309.61 \end{aligned}$$

**Degrees of freedom:**

$$DF = (r - 1) * (c - 1)$$

**Level of significance:**

.01	.05	.10
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# Data Integration

- **Careful integration** of the data from multiple sources may help reduce/avoid redundancies and inconsistencies and improve mining speed and quality



# Data reduction

- **Data reduction:** 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

## Data reduction strategies

- **Data cube aggregation** – where aggregation operations are applied to the data for **construction of a data cube**.
- **Attribute subset selection** – reduces the data set size by **removing irrelevant or redundant attributes**. Goal – to find a minimum set of attributes.
- **Dimensionality reduction**, e.g., remove unimportant attributes
  - Wavelet transforms
  - Principal Components Analysis (PCA)
  - Feature subset selection
- **Numerosity reduction (some simply call it: Data Reduction)**
  - Regression and Log-Linear Models
  - Histograms, clustering, sampling
  - Data cube aggregation
- **Data compression**



# Data reduction

## Attribute subset selection:

- stepwise forward selection
- Stepwise backward elimination
- Combination of forward selection and backward elimination





# Data reduction

- Dimensionality reduction
  - Data **encoding or transformations** are applied so as to obtain reduced or compressed representation of the original data.
  - **Lossless**- if the original data can be reconstructed from the compressed data **without any loss** of information
  - **Lossy**- if the original data can be reconstructed from the compressed data **with loss** of information.



# Data Transformation

- The data are transformed or consolidated into forms appropriate for mining.
- Methods
  - Smoothing: Remove noise from data
  - 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** ( $\mu$ : mean,  $\sigma$ : standard deviation):

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

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

- **Normalization by decimal scaling**

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