Applied machine learning

Past, present, and future: A personal view



Charles Elkan
Computer Science and Engineering
UC San Diego

July 9, 2013

elkan@ucsd.edu

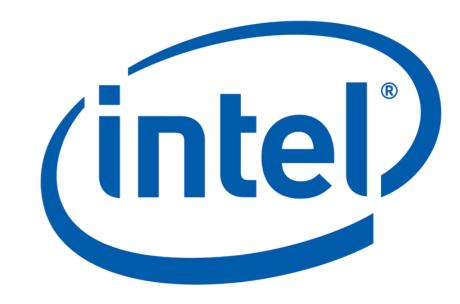




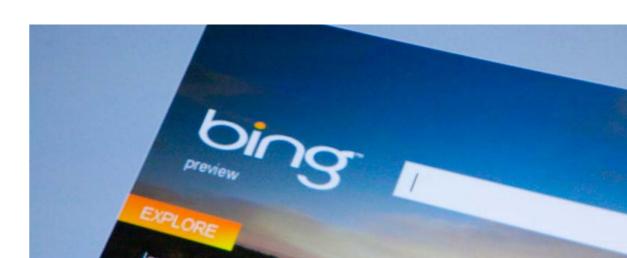












What is applied machine learning?

BI, DSS, KDD, fast data, big data, unstructured data, dataviz, NoSQL, Hadoop, Hive Fig, map-reduce.

Convert data into knowledge + capture value = statistics + optimization

Statistics = machine learning = data mining (\neq data snooping)

Optimization = microeconomics + operations research

What's new?

Traditional data:

• Tables in databases



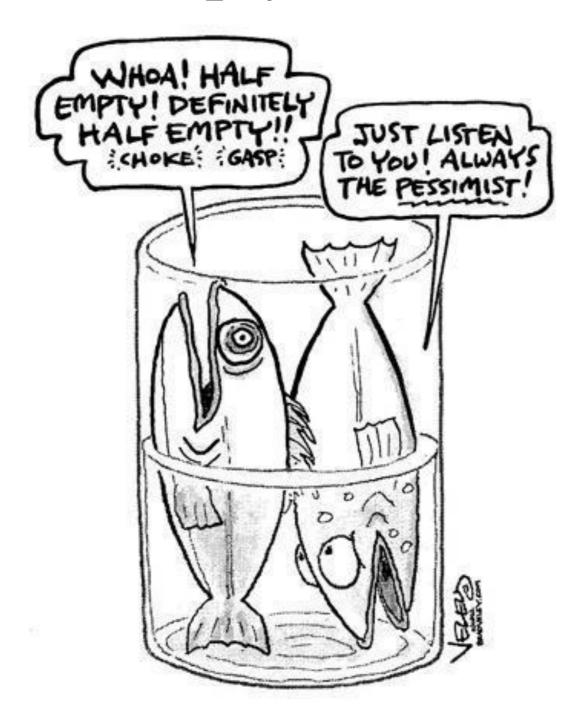
New types of data:

- Documents
- Networks
- Videos
- XML

And scale!



Half empty or half full?



However much data we have, important data is always missing.

What we can learn from statistics

Recent Claims that do not Replicate

"The reliability of results from observational studies has been called into question many times in the recent past, with several analyses showing that well over half of the reported findings are subsequently refuted." JNCI, 2007

- Calcium + VitD for bone breaking
- 2. Hormone replacement therapy for dementia, CHD, breast cancer, stroke
- 3. Vitamin E for CHD
- 4. Fluoride for vertebral fractures
- Diuretic in diabetes patients for mortality
- 6. Low fat diet for colorectal cancer and CHD, breast cancer)
- Beta Carotene for CHD
- 8. Growth hormone for mortality
- 9. Low dose aspirin for stroke, MI, and death
- 10. Knee surgery and pain
- Statins for <u>cancer</u> and <u>mortality</u>
- Wound dressing on <u>healing speed</u>

28-Jul-07 Stan Young, www.NISS.org

1/20,5%!!

3

The NIH has funded a large number of randomized clinical trials testing the claims coming from observational studies. Of 20 claims coming from observational studies only one replicated when tested in RCT. The overall picture is one of crisis.

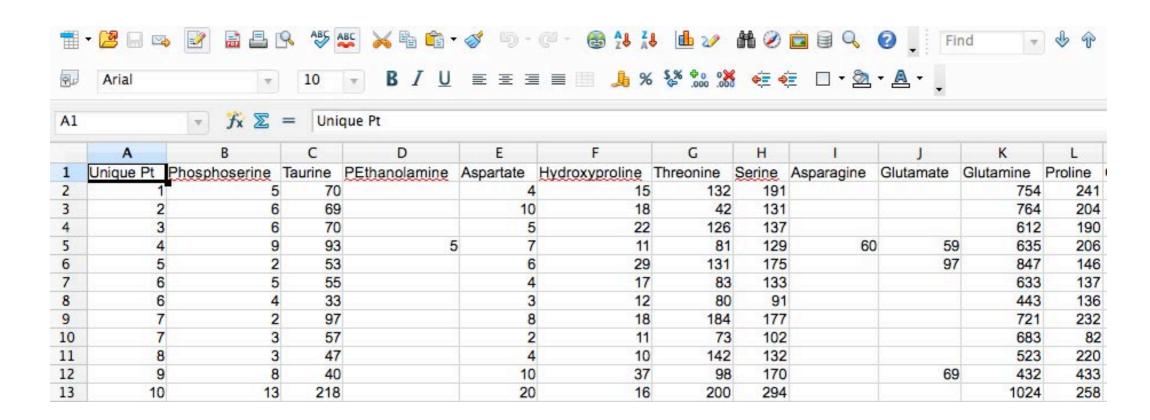
Traditional data

	→ 📴 🔚 🖾		ABS 4	<u>S</u>	∛ 5) - E = 3			# ⊘			nd +	⊕ ⊕
A1	10000	▼ fx ∑) Province	que Pt		, m	. 000. 000	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		- •		
	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	1	J	K	L
1	Unique Pt	Phosphoserine	Taurine	PEthanolamine	Aspartate	Hydroxyproline	Threonine	Serine	Asparagine	Glutamate	Glutamine	Proline
2	1	5			4	15					754	241
3	2	2 6	69		10	18	42	131			764	204
4	3	6	70		5	22	126	137			612	190
5	4	9	93	5	7	11	81	129	60	59	635	200
6	5	5 2	53		6	29	131	175		97	847	140
7	6	5	55		4	17	83	133			633	13
8	6	4	33		3	12	80	91			443	136
8	7	2	97		8	18	184	177			721	232
10	7	3	57		2	11	73	102			683	
11	8	3	47		4	10	142	132			523	
12	9	8	40		10	37	98	170		69	432	
13	10	13	218		20	16	200	294			1024	

Database systems are cost centers, not profit centers.

- Business question: how to turn data into profit?
- What's new? Big data and fast data.
 - Example: 29 billion rows, 50 thousand columns.

From data to predictions to actions



What can we do with traditional data?

Answer: Predict or recognize, then take actions.

Essential to apply decision theory:

- What are the probabilities of alternative outcomes?
- What are the costs and benefits of alternative actions?

Effect of Three Decades of Screening Mammography on Breast-Cancer Incidence

Archie Bleyer, M.D., and H. Gilbert Welch, M.D., M.P.H.

N Engl J Med 2012; 367:1998-2005 | November 22, 2012 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1206809

RESULTS

The introduction of screening mammography in the United States has been associated with a doubling in the number of cases of early-stage breast cancer that are detected each year, from 112 to 234 cases per 100,000 women — an absolute increase of 122 cases per 100,000 women. Concomitantly, the rate at which women present with late-stage cancer has decreased by 8%, from 102 to 94 cases per 100,000 women — an absolute decrease of 8 cases per 100,000 women. With the assumption of a constant underlying disease burden, only 8 of the 122 additional early-stage cancers diagnosed were expected to progress to advanced disease. After excluding the transient excess incidence associated with hormonereplacement therapy and adjusting for trends in the incidence of breast cancer among women younger than 40 years of age, we estimated that breast cancer was overdiagnosed (i.e., tumors were detected on screening that would never have led to clinical symptoms) in 1.3 million U.S. women in the past 30 years. We estimated that in 2008, breast cancer was overdiagnosed in more than 70,000 women; this accounted for 31% of all breast cancers diagnosed.

Beyond decision theory ...

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON RELIABILITY, VOL. 51, NO. 3, SEPTEMBER 2002

Improved Disk-Drive Failure Warnings

Gordon F. Hughes, Fellow, IEEE, Joseph F. Murray, Kenneth Kreutz-Delgado, Senior Member, IEEE, and Charles Elkan

What can we do with traditional data?

• Answer: Predict or recognize, then take actions.

Microeconomics and micropolitics!

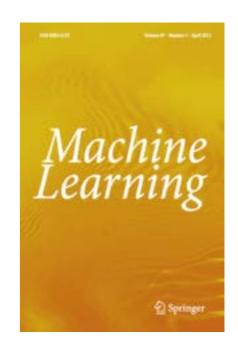
Who pays the costs, who reaps the benefits?

Protecting confidentiality

Machine Learning June 2013

Differential privacy based on importance weighting

Zhanglong Ji, Charles Elkan



Problem: Toyota wants to learn using Facebook information.

But Facebook users expect their data to stay private?

Solution: Assume some users opt-in to sharing with Toyota.

 Facebook computes and publishes weights making these people representative of all Facebook users.

Privacy can be almost free

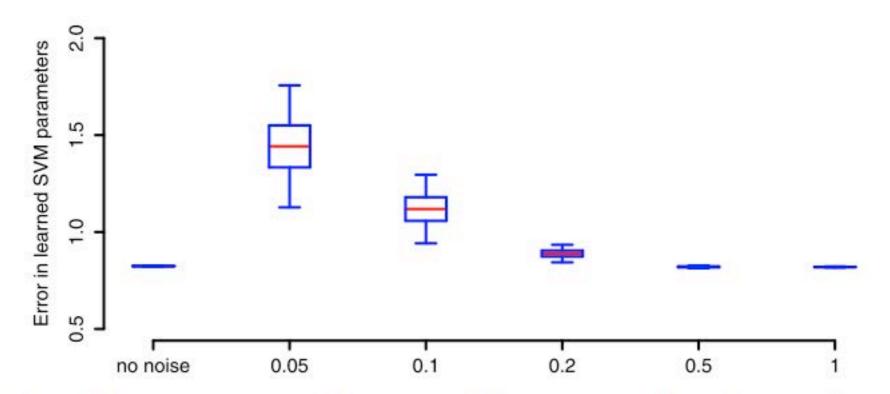


Fig. 3 Euclidean distance (vertical axis) between linear SVM parameter vectors learned from D and from E, with $\lambda = 0.1$ and regularization strength $\Lambda = 0.1$ for the SVM. The horizontal axis shows various values of the privacy budget ϵ . The "No Noise" result is the distance with bootstrapping but without privacy-protecting noise added. Box plots show variation over 100 random versions of D

Theorem 2 The total variance $Var[\frac{1}{N_E}\sum_{x\in E}b(x)w(x)]$ is asymptotically less than

$$\alpha^T \left(\frac{d}{N_D \lambda^2} I + \frac{d(d+1)}{(N_D \lambda \epsilon)^2} I \right) \alpha$$

where d is the dimensionality of data points x, I is the identity matrix, and

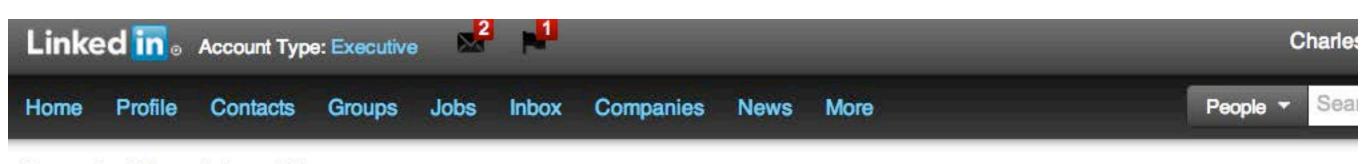
$$\alpha = \frac{\sum_{x_i, x_j \in E} e^{\beta_0^T (x_i + x_j)} (b(x_i) - b(x_j)) (x_i - x_j)}{\sum_{x_i, x_j \in E} e^{\beta_0^T (x_i + x_j)}}.$$

From predictions to suggestions

- Many organizations use "look-alike" models to identify prospects for targeting.
 - But if you buy one TV, will you buy another?
 - And, are you influenceable?
- A recommender system predicts "if you choose this, then you are likely to choose that."

Netflix Prize





People You May Know

See people from different parts of your professional life

University of California, San Diego

UC San Diego

Stanford University



Carnegie Mellon University



University of California, Berkeley

Massachu... Institute of Technology

All Suggestions / Carnegie Mellon University (12)





Namit Katariya group

Computer Science Graduate Student at Carnegie Mellon University Greater Pittsburgh Area





Michael Witbrock 2nd

VP for Research, Cycorp.

Austin, Texas Area



20 shared connections



Jure Leskovec 2nd

Assistant Professor at Stanford University
San Francisco Bay Area



34 shared connections



Craig Knoblock 2nd

Research Professor at University of Southern California

Greater Los Angeles Area

Connect

20 shared connections



Schwan Food Company



It all started back on Tuesday March 18, 1952, when 23-year-old Marvin Schwan packed up his beat-up 1946 Dodge panel van with 14 gallons of his family's signature ice cream with a plan to deliver it to rural families in western Minnesota. He quickly sold all 14 gallons, and from that historic trip was born the Schwan's home-delivery business.

Driving back after his first delivery, Marvin thought about his successful new business venture and why it worked: his rural customers were eager to buy ice cream, they appreciated the service, and the delivery saved them a trip to town and eliminated the problem of getting the product home before it melted.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

WSJ.com

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY | January 4, 2012

So, What's Your Algorithm?

By DENNIS K. BERMAN

Schwan home sales were listless for four straight years, beset by high customer churn and inventory pileups. Over 10 months, the venerable Minnesota company began a program with the aid of Opera Solutions Inc. of New York, an eight-year-old analytics firm.

Schwan already had a crude recommendation program. Its sales people could look at six weeks of orders, and suggest purchases from that list.

The new project took it into more sophisticated territory: Matching seemingly disparate customers with similar purchase patterns in their past. Opera calls them finding "genetic twins." It also added ways to track whether customers' spending was fading from certain categories—say, breakfast foods—and offered product suggestions and discounts to keep the spending intact.

Schwan's database is now pushing out more than 1.2 million dynamically-generated customer recommendations every day, sent directly to drivers' handheld devices. Opera says Schwan's revenues are up 3% to 4% because of it.

Predicting behavior, e.g. "buy" based on "view"



Samsung UN55B8000 55-Inch 1080p 240 Hz LED HDTV

Other products by Samsung

3.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (25 customer reviews) | More about this product

List Price: \$3,899.99

Price: \$3,009.00 Free Shipping

You Save: \$890.99 (23%)

Special Offers Available

Discuss this item and its price with other customers

What Is Subscribe & Save?

In Stock.

Ships from and sold by Amazon.com.

3.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (25 customer reviews) | More about this product

See larger image and other views

Share your own customer images

What Do Customers Ultimately Buy After Viewing This Item?

67% buy the item featured on this page:

Samsung UN55B8000 55-Inch 1080p 240 Hz LED HDTV <u>3.8 out of 5 stars</u> (<u>25</u>) \$3,009.00



10% buy

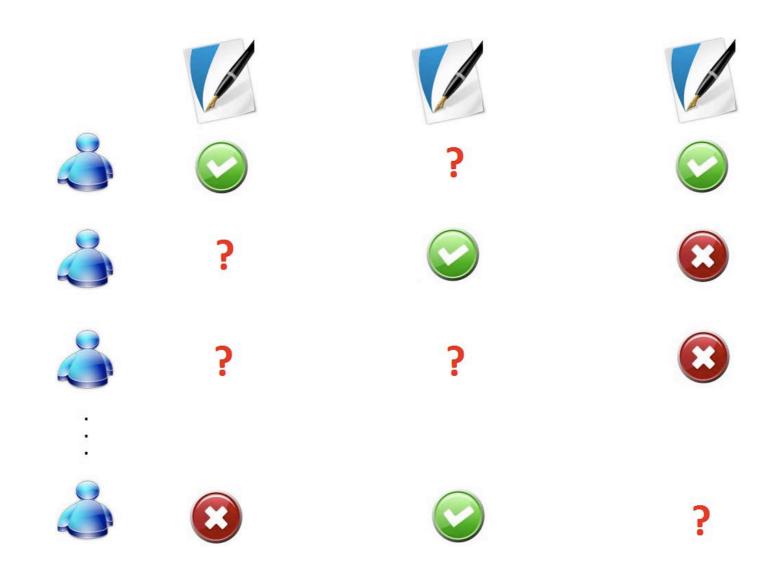
Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Two-Disc Blu-ray/DVD Combo + BD Live w/ Blu-ray packaging) [Blu-ray] \$19.99



8% buy

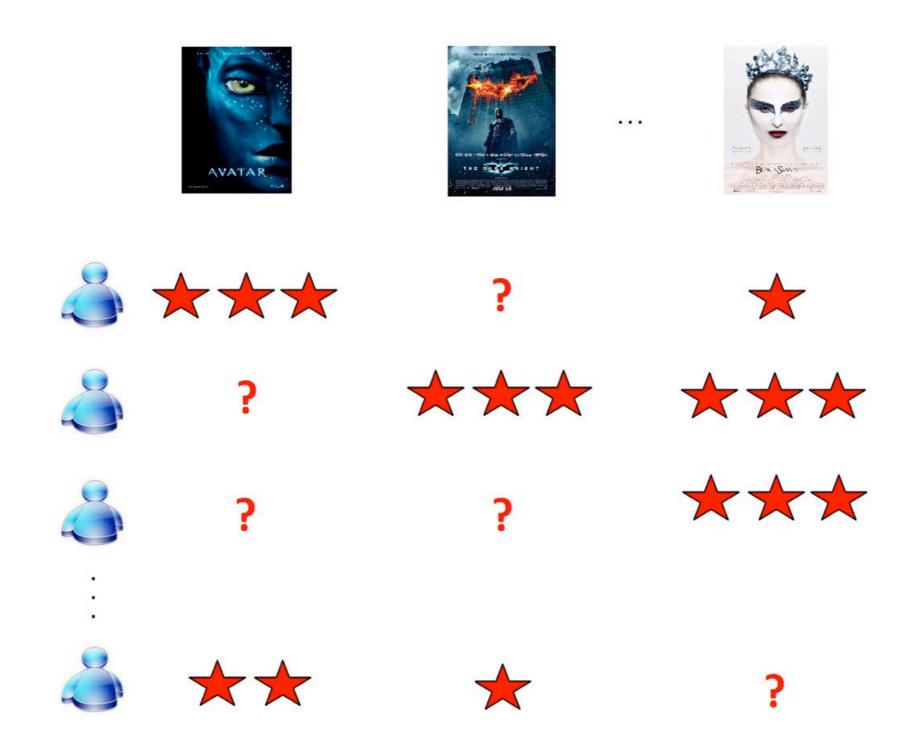
Samsung LN52B750 52-Inch 1080p 240 Hz LCD HDTV with Charcoal Grev Touch of Color 4.5 out of 5 st \$2,019.00

Predicting the behavior of shoppers



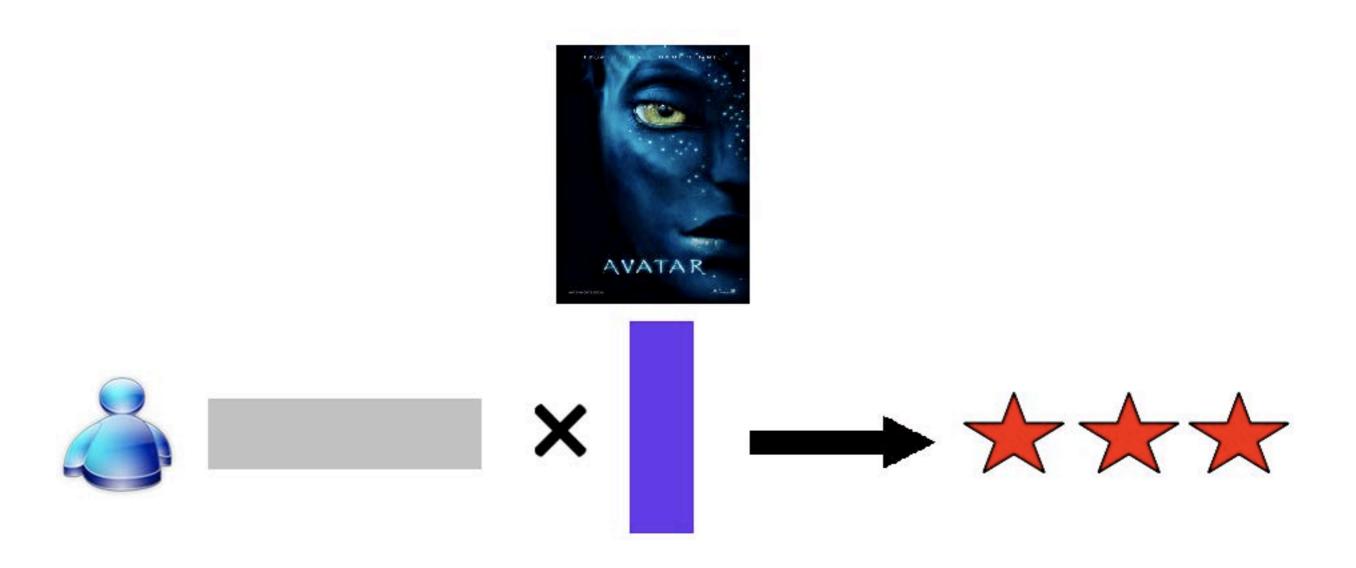
A customer's actions can include { look at product, add to cart, finish checkout, write review, return for refund, ... }.

Dyadic prediction



Task: Given labels for some dyads, predict labels of other dyads.

Latent feature models



- Each user, each movie has its own values for latent features.
- A prediction is the dot-product of latent vectors.
- Infer the most predictive vector for each user and movie.

Latent features are hidden dimensions

Dimension 1

The Color Purple

Amadeus

Braveheart



Sense and Sensibility



Lethal Weapon





Dimension 2



The Princess Diaries

The Lion King

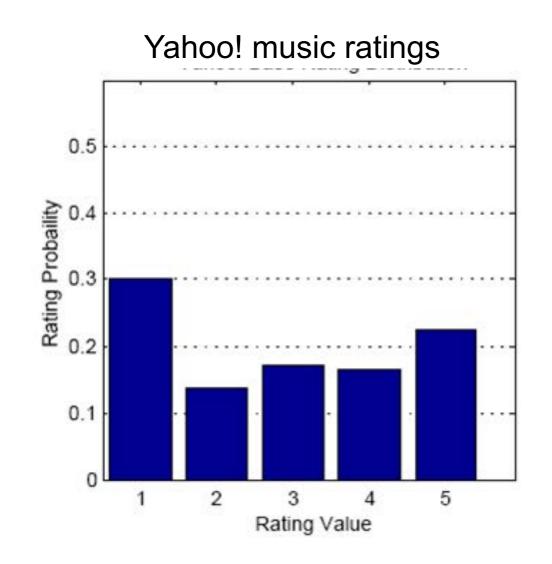
Independence Day Dumb and Dumber

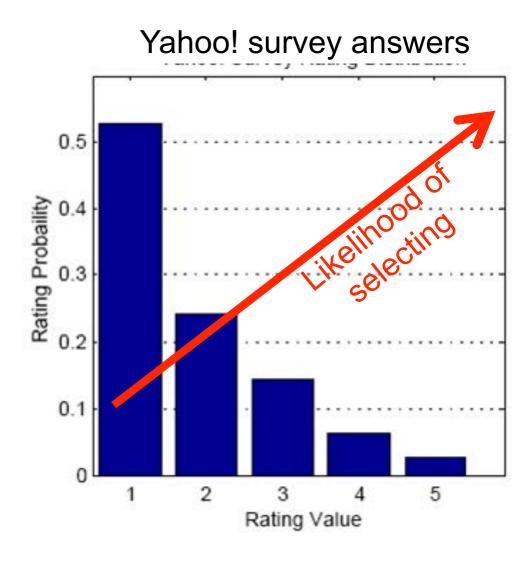


What's new in our LFL approach

- 1. Using side-information about users and items
- 2. Allowing any set of discrete labels
- 3. Predicting calibrated probabilities.
- 4. Learning from unbalanced data
- 5. Scaling to billions of pairs
- 6. Unifying disparate problems in a single framework.

Users do not provide opinions at random





The LFL model

$$p(y|(r,c);w) \propto \exp\left(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \alpha_{rk}^{y} \beta_{ck}^{y} + (v^{y})^{T} s_{rc} + u_{r}^{T} V^{y} m_{c}\right)$$

The log-linear framework is a model of discrete choice. Finding latent vectors is essentially factor analysis.

One latent vector per person-label; also one per item-label.

- V^y captures effects of person r and item c attributes.
- v^y captures effects of attributes specific to the (r,c) pair.

The LFL model

$$p(y|(r,c);w) \propto \exp\left(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \alpha_{rk}^{y} \beta_{ck}^{y} + (v^{y})^{T} s_{rc} + u_{r}^{T} V^{y} m_{c}\right)$$

- 1. Important algorithmic innovations:
 - 1. For scalability, train using stochastic gradient descent.
 - 2. Use L_2 regularization to prevent overfitting.
 - 3. Alternative loss functions: Maximum likelihood, AUC, absolute or squared error, and more.

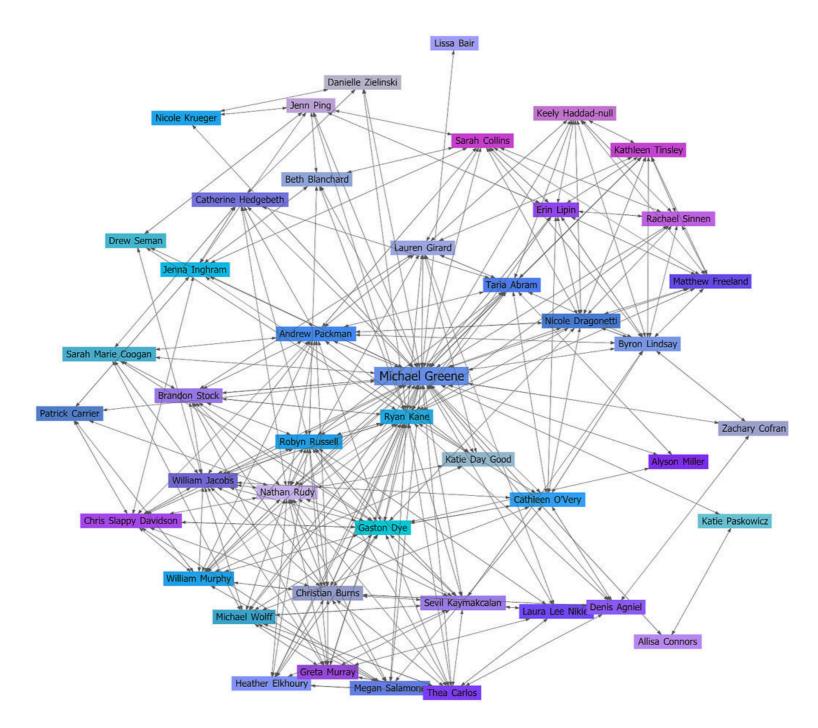
Factor analysis inside discrete choice

$$p(y|(r,c);w) \propto \exp\left(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \alpha_{rk}^{y} \beta_{ck}^{y} + (v^{y})^{T} s_{rc} + u_{r}^{T} V^{y} m_{c}\right)$$

Compared to conjoint analysis in marketing:

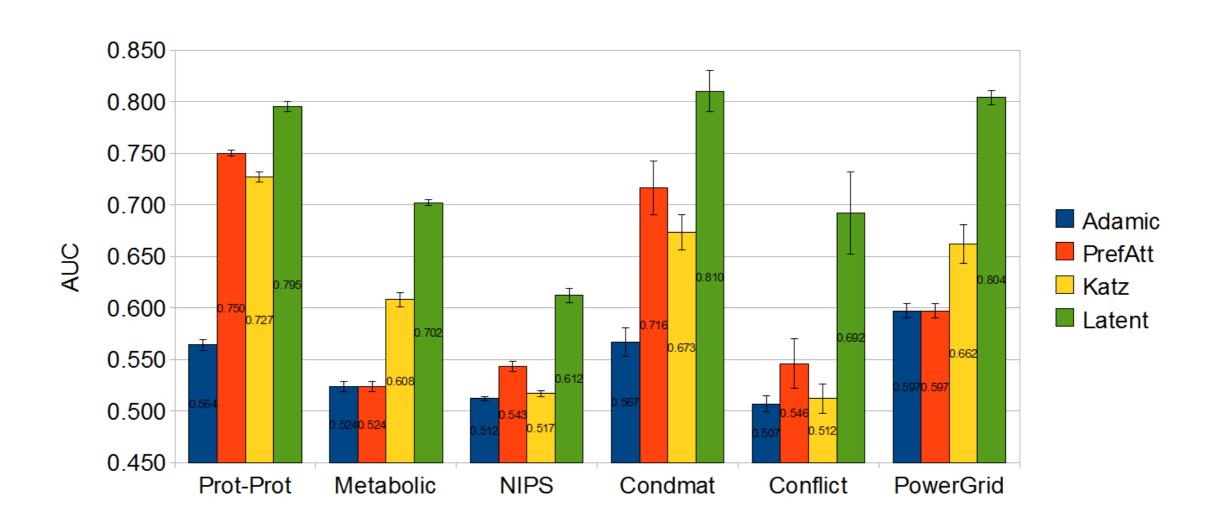
- Simultaneous modeling of consumers and products
- Attributes are inferred from revealed preferences
- Can handle billions of observations
- Modern algorithms give improved accuracy.

LFL applied to link prediction



Task: Given data about known people and connections, infer which connections do exist but are unknown.

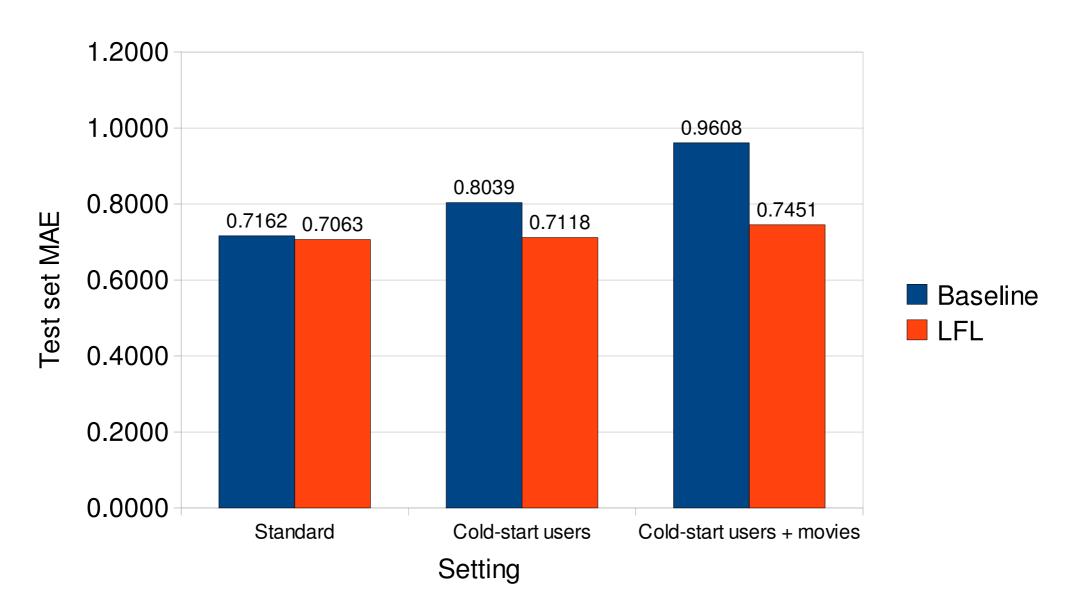
Learning from data is vital



Three theoretical models, one trained LFL model (green).

- On all datasets, LFL gives the highest accuracy.
- No theoretical model is best always.

Solving the cold-start problem



How can we predict choices for new customers and items?

- Blue: LFL with rating data only.
- Red: LFL with movie and user demographic data.

Part II: New types of data

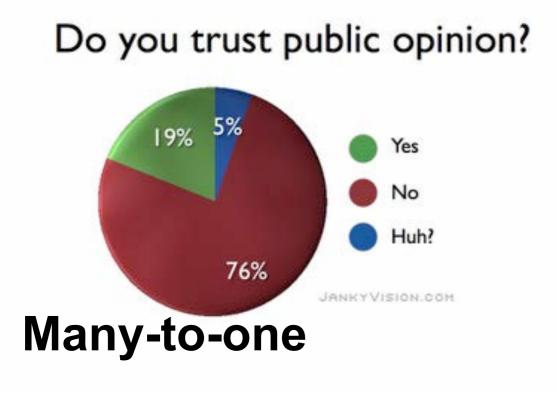


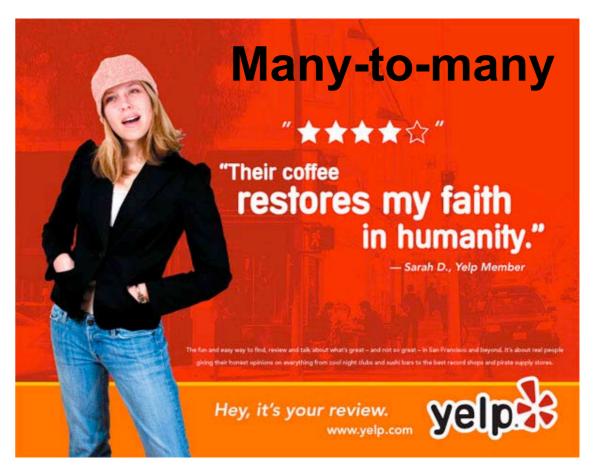


What's new about social media?









What's important about social media?

Communication is about feelings as much as about facts.

Shared feelings drive actions.

How to understand opinions in text automatically?

• Sentiment analysis ...

Sentiment analysis in 2002

Thumbs up? Sentiment Classification using Machine Learning Techniques

Bo Pang, Lillian Lee, Shivakumar Vaithyanathan

(Submitted on 28 May 2002)

We consider the problem of classifying documents not by topic, but by overall sentiment, e.g., determining whether a review is positive or negative. Using movie reviews as data, we find that standard machine learning techniques definitively outperform human-produced baselines. However, the three machine learning methods we employed (Naive Bayes, maximum entropy classification, and support vector machines) do not perform as well on sentiment classification as on traditional topic-based categorization. We conclude by examining factors that make the sentiment classification problem more challenging.

Comments: To appear in EMNLP-2002

Subjects: Computation and Language (cs.CL); Learning (cs.LG)

ACM classes: I.2.7; I.2.6

Cite as: arXiv:cs/0205070 [cs.CL]

Earlier: Sentiment analysis in 2001

• ... labels designate level of quality, such as interestingness, appropriateness, timeliness, humor, style of language, obscenity, sentiment

 ... a classifier means effective to automatically associate a quality value to items of data

(12) United States Patent Elkan

- (54) METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SELECTING DOCUMENTS BY MEASURING DOCUMENT QUALITY
- (75) Inventor: Charles Elkan, San Diego, CA (US)
- (73) Assignee: The Regents of the University of California, Oakland, CA (US)
- *) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 455 days.
- (21) Appl. No.: 10/004,514
- (22) Filed: Nov. 2, 2001

Sentiment analysis in 2010

arXiv.org > cs > arXiv:1010.3003

Search o

Computer Science > Computational Engineering, Finance, and Science

Twitter mood predicts the stock market

Johan Bollen, Huina Mao, Xiao-Jun Zeng

(Submitted on 14 Oct 2010)

Behavioral economics tells us that emotions can profoundly affect individual behavior and decision-making. Does this also apply to societies at large, i.e., can societies experience mood states that affect their collective decision making? By extension is the public mood correlated or even predictive of economic indicators? Here we investigate whether measurements of collective mood states derived from large-scale Twitter feeds are correlated to the value of the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) over time. We analyze the text content of daily Twitter feeds by two mood tracking tools, namely OpinionFinder that measures positive vs. negative mood and Google-Profile of Mood States (GPOMS) that measures mood in terms of 6 dimensions (Calm, Alert, Sure, Vital, Kind, and Happy). We cross-validate the resulting mood time series by comparing their ability to detect the public's response to the presidential election and Thanksgiving day in 2008. A Granger causality analysis and a Self-Organizing Fuzzy Neural Network are then used to investigate the hypothesis that public mood states, as measured by the OpinionFinder and GPOMS mood time series, are predictive of changes in DJIA closing values. Our results indicate that the accuracy of DJIA predictions can be significantly improved by the inclusion of specific public mood dimensions but not others. We find an accuracy of 87.6% in predicting the daily up and down changes in the closing values of the DJIA and a reduction of the Mean Average Percentage Error by more than 6%.

Subjects: Computational Engineering, Finance, and Science (cs.CE); Computation and Language (cs.CL); Social and Information

Networks (cs.SI); Physics and Society (physics.soc-ph)

Journal reference: Journal of Computational Science, 2(1), March 2011, Pages 1-8

Correlation versus causation

Using News Articles to Predict Stock **Price Movements**

Gvőző Gidófalvi

Department of Computer Science and Engineering University of California, San Diego La Jolla, CA 92037 gyozo@cs.ucsd.edu

2001, June 15, 2001

This paper shows that short-term stock price movements can be predicted using financial news articles. Given a stock price time series, for each time interval we classify price movement as "up," "down," or (approximately) "unchanged" relative to the volatility of the stock and the change in a relevant index. Each article in a training set of news articles is then labeled "up," "down," or "unchanged" according to the movement of the associated stock in a time interval surrounding publication of the article. A naïve Bayesian text classifier is trained to predict which movement class an article belongs to. Given a test article, the trained classifier potentially predicts the price movement of the associated stock. However, the efficient markets hypothesis asserts that this classifier cannot have predictive power. In careful experiments we find definite predictive power for the stock price movement in the interval starting 20 minutes before and ending 20 minutes after

news articles become publicly available.

Opinion analysis in 2013



⊕ ZOOM

Now a LiveSmart™ product! Our premium Philly Sliced Beef Steak still offers all the taste and tenderness but with lower calories and fat! Conveniently packaged and ready to go from freezer to stovetop - no thawing required. These strips of tender beef make it easy to create sandwiches, sir-fries, fajitas, omelets and more. Individually wrapped packages make it convenient to make one serving or many.



Pricing and availability may vary by location.

PREPARATION INGREDIENTS REVIEWS **NUTRITION FACTS Product Reviews** Helpfulness - High to Low \$ Overall: XXXXX Top 10 Contributor No Additives Date: January 8, 2009 Fanny (read all my reviews) Location: Sanbornville NH "Each piece makes one sandwich. NO camparision to store bought! Customer for: 7-11 months Couldn't locate ingredients - - reason - - there is only ONE ingredient. I was amazed how much they FLUFFED UP compared to

Some reviews are more helpful than others

Helpfulness - High to Low | \$

Date: January 8, 2009

Top 10 Contributor

No Additives

"Each piece makes one sandwich. NO camparision to store bought ! Couldn't locate ingredients - - reason - - there is only ONE ingredient. I was amazed how much they FLUFFED UP compared to the size of the box. Don't let the size of the box fool you! This makes a big sandwich. This is real beef with NO additives!! And the taste is just that - - REAL. The beef is very high quality. I Will NEVER buy store bought as long as this is available! SO EASY TO COOK and serve!! Well worth the purchase!!"

18 of **18** people found this review helpful.

Was this review helpful to you? Yes No (Report Inappropriate Review)

But, how can new helpful reviews emerge?

Overall:



AZGIR

Location: Chandler, AZ
Customer for: 6+ years

Beware!! Product has changed!!

"I was a HUGE fan of this product and LOVED that the only ingredient was 100% beef.. however, I just purchased a box and it is now called Philly Sliced Beef and contains beef, water, modified food starch, salt, dextrose, sodium phosphate, autolyzed yeast and hydrolyzed corn protein. So upset that it is no longer pure beef. Will never purchase again!!!"

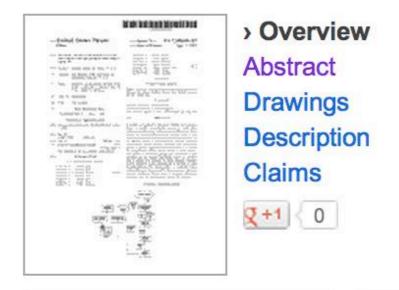
Date: April 17, 2012

9 of 10 people found this review helpful.

Measuring helpfulness automatically

Method and system for selecting documents by measuring document quality

Charles Elkan



Go

Patent number: 7200606 Filing date: Nov 2, 2001 Issue date: Apr 3, 2007

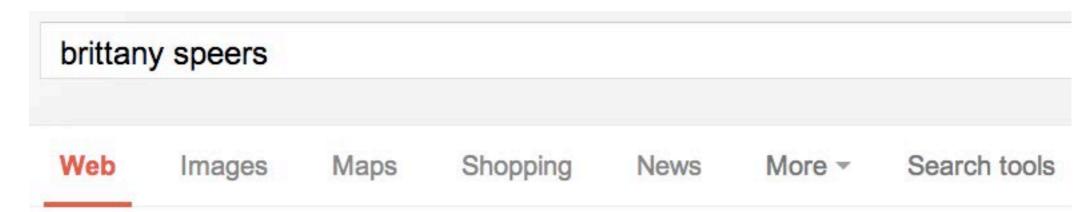
Application number: 10/004,514

A system and method for document filtering and selection based on quality automatically operates to make value judgments for document retrieval. Items of data, e.g. documents, are automatically associated a value. Items of data may be then selected based upon value, which is not only for the specific subject or topic requested, but also desirable according to certain criteria, including each document's quality. A specific application of the invention is to a filter for computerized bulletin boards. Many of these systems, also known as discussion groups, have thousands of new messages per day. Readers and human editors do not have time to classify new messages by quality quickly. Messages may be ranked by quality automatically, to perform the same function performed by a human editor or moderator. Values and qualities may be assigned by interestingness, appropriateness, timeliness, humor, style of language, obscenity, sentiment, and any combinations thereof, for example.

Inventor: Charles Elkan

Original Assignee: The Regents of the University of California

Why are public search engines so good?



About 311,000,000 results (0.33 seconds)

Showing results for britteny spears
Search instead for britteny speers

Britney Spears



www.britneyspears.com/ -

by Britney Spears - in 7,055,854 Google+ circles
Access **Britney Spears** photos, galleries, tour informaiton, and videos. Get
the latest news direct from **BritneySpears**.com.

News for britney spears



Britney Spears: 'Thoughts and prayers' for Asiana victims
USA TODAY - 3 hours ago

How can other search engines be better?

CHALLENGES:

- Facing a highly publicized global recall, Toyota needed a
 way to understand its quality data yet had an exponentially
 growing number of questions and a fraction of time to react
- Gave close to 1,000 users, from quality engineers to executive dashboard users the ability to analyze quality data from heterogeneous sources

RESULTS:

- Allowed users to design reports and dashboards in minutes
- Delivered analytics on 6 years of structured and unstructured data from more than a dozen sources with 110 analytical dimensions, and 250 analytical components
- Will eliminate hundreds of thousands of hours of end-user wait time per year

Needed: Search with more understanding

LaVerne Council, Chief Information Officer of Johnson & Johnson:

"... allow anyone to ask a question ... folks that have given us access to their email ... data mining for answers to that question

... help us solve a very hairy issue for one of our products ... one of the associates had completed his thesis in college on that very topic ... they weren't in the same company

... we were able to really come back with answers."

Squid: A new search engine

patent

Search

Results

Inventor awarded millions in 'hot wheels' patent infringement

Jerome Lemelson has spent decades inventing gadgets in his Princeton, N.J., home. But it was in a Chicago courtroom this week that Lemelson may have seen his biggest success _ a multi-million dolla... more

Ibm settles \$100 million patent infringement suit

International Business Machines Corp. confirmed Thursday it has agreed to settle a \$100 million lawsuit charging that its personal computers violated a basic patent on word processing held by a small ... more

Suit alleges texas instruments artificially depressed stock 27 16% ■ 16% ■ 1% price

Texas Instruments Inc. has little to say about a lawsuit that claims the company artificially depressed its stock price last month by not quickly disclosing a Japanese patent potentially worth billion... more

Judge rules against ralston-purina in dog chow patent case

A federal judge has eliminated Ralston Purina Co.'s right to continue to enforce a patent used for the production of Purina Dog Chow. U.S. District Judge Michael Mihm ruled Thursday that in 19... more

Atari games granted injunction against nintendo

27% 31% 11%

9% 15% 10%

13% 16% 4% 1%

29% 31%

Reset topics

Selected Topics

filed court lawsuit suit judge claims attorney case settlement district damages federal pay legal lawyer sued attorneys order lawyers lawsuits complaint claim company comment action agreed million seeking civil hearing

Select a topic

computer system computers technology systems machines equipment ibm industry corp company data electronic software high machine electronics companies personal market digital business based information research apple kodak chip

court supreme judge ruling case appeals decision federal law ruled appeal justice circuit state justices judges courts rights today lawyers district legal upheld constitutional cases rejected order lawyer

company companies business corp amp based products firm operations largest division million industry subsidiary joint venture corporate announced chairman steel businesses international executive owned management market deal sales

Applications are in verticals

December 8, 2011 1:32 pm

Financial groups hit by flood of new rules

By Brooke Masters in London



Financial services firms worldwide are being hit with an average 60 regulatory changes every working day, a 16 per cent increase over last year, and no let up is in sight, a study has found.

Regulators around the world announced 14,215 changes in the twelve months to November, up from 12,179 for the same period a year earlier, according to new

research by the Thomson Reuters governance, risk and compliance unit.

More

ON THIS STORY

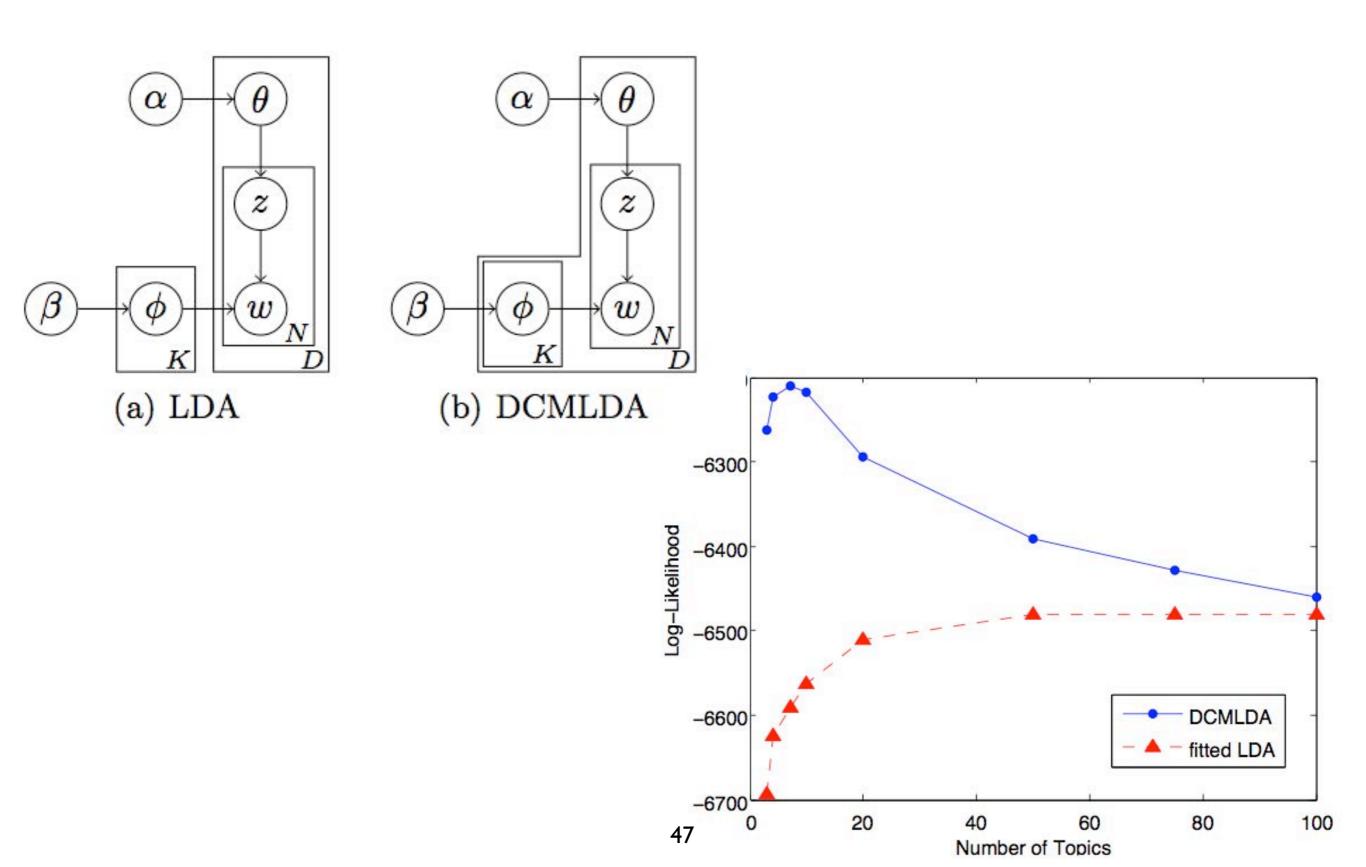
HSBC to widen mis-selling bond review

Regulators warn on banks' risk evaluation

Analysis European banks face a dual burden

The study tracks everything from the passage of new laws and short-selling bans to the issuance of consultation papers and speeches that contain policy announcements; in short everything compliance officers are expected to keep abreast of. The rules range from global packages like the Basel III bank capital reforms to local rules in individual US states.

Research challenge: Fewer topics, better fit



Medline and PubMed



Learning to label documents

```
Search details

"nf-kappa b"[MeSH Terms] OR "nf-kappa b"[All Fields] OR "nf kappa b"[All Fields]
```

Each article is labeled by humans with up to 30 labels selected from 26,853 choices.

- One million documents are indexed per year.
- Ten minutes per document requires 100 staff.

Budget cuts are causing delays in indexing

• Can we learn 26,853 classifiers from 2M documents?

Research challenges

- 1. Share preprocessing between 26,853 classifiers.
- 2. Balance overfitting and underfitting without cross-validation.
- 3. Handle needle-in-a-haystack labels.
- 4. Estimate accurate, calibrated probabilities.
- 5. Set 26,853 thresholds individually to maximize F1 scores.
- 6. Measure the accuracy of human indexers.

Making optimal decisions about labels

Definition of F1 score: $\alpha = 2tp/(2tp + fp + fn)$.

Example: $\alpha = 0.8$ means four correct labels (tp) for each wrong label (fp) and each missed label (fn).

Theorem: If the optimal F1 score is α , then the optimal prediction for document x has probability threshold $\alpha/2$:

$$\hat{y} = I(p(y=1|x) > \alpha/2).$$

[Results on next slide: Laptop with four gigabytes of memory.]

F1 score results

training documents		200,000	400,000	
vocabulary size		?	20194	
descriptor	MTI	Adaboost	SVD 500	experts
Humans	.778	.923	.939	.971
Animals	.790	.792	.858	.940
Female	.466	.759	.839	.899
Male	.387	.745	.834	.901
Adult	.195	.602	.707	.832
Aged	.121	.572	.706	.800
Adolescent	.259	.397	.515	.588
Young Adult	.003	.317	.456	.600
Aged, 80+	.006	.305	.467	.714

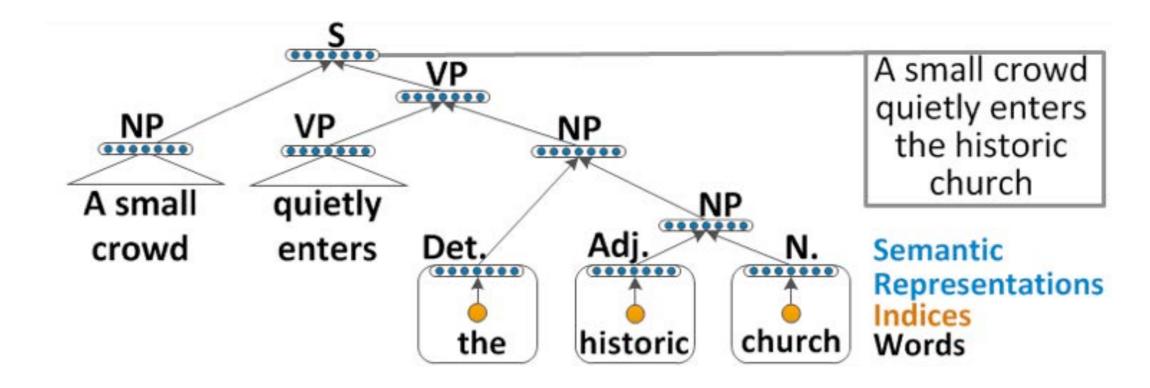
Observations:

- The MTI software used at NIH works for some labels only.
- SVD-based regression with 500 topics dominates Adaboost.
- Machine learning approaches the accuracy of expert indexers.

Towards semantic processing

Recursive neural nets for language understanding

www.socher.org/index.php/Main/ParsingNaturalScenes AndNaturalLanguageWith RecursiveNeuralNetworks



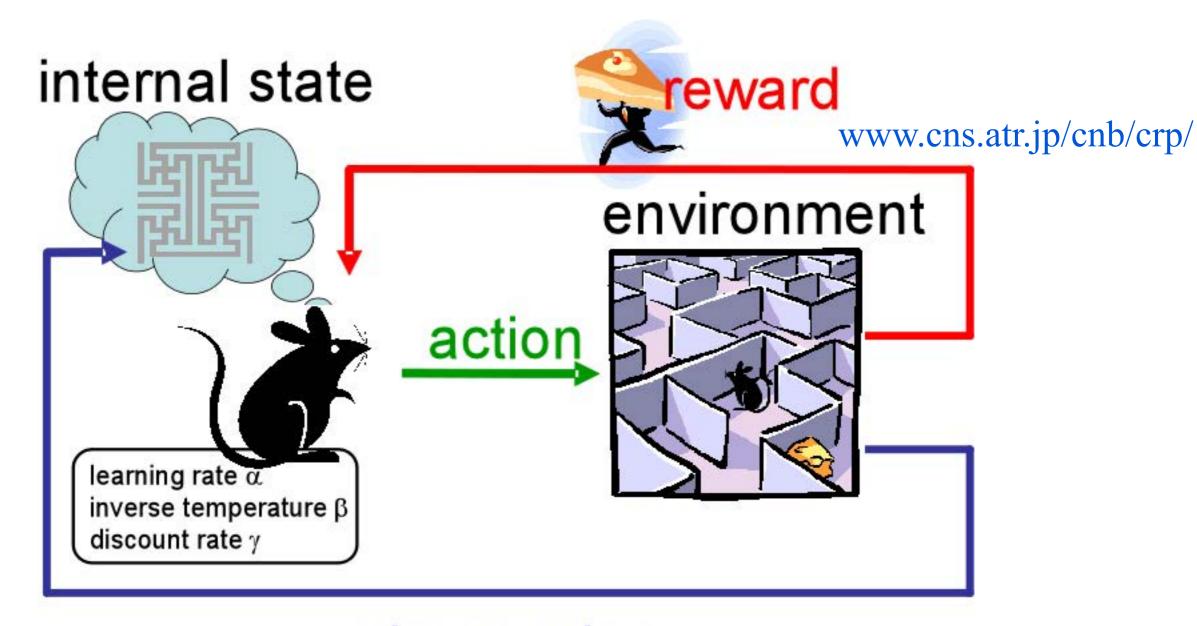
Part III: Back to making decisions

Many learning and decision-making applications have a short-term view.

- But, if you use more credit now, are you more likely to default in the future?
- What about priming, saturation, and spontaneity?

We need to choose actions to maximize *long-term* benefit.

Reinforcement learning



observation

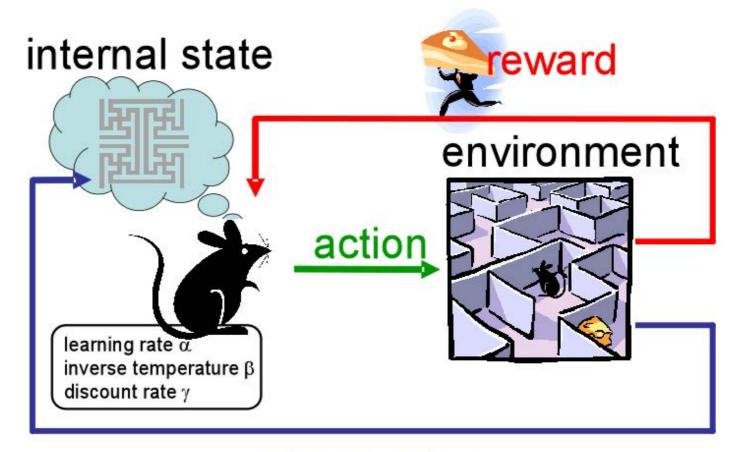
Mathematical framework is Markov decision processes (MDPs).

Data-driven individualized marketing

The agent is a vendor; each customer is one random instance of the environment.

• The agent takes an action (sends a catalog, etc.) then gets a reward (profit from a purchase, etc.).

The agent must learn how the environment evolves *and* a long-term optimal policy.

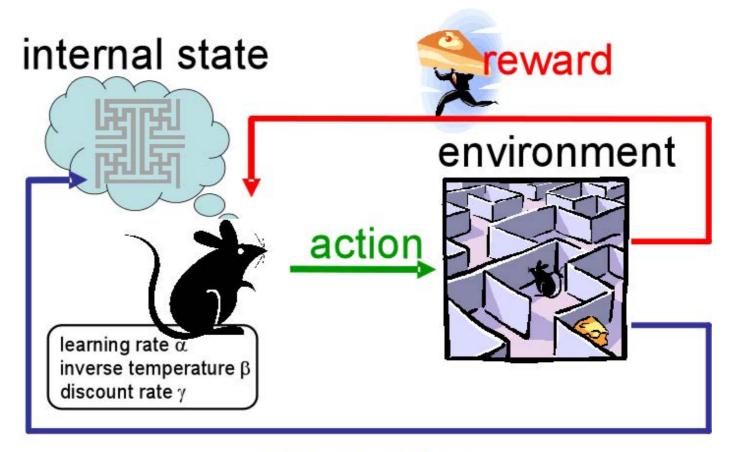


Where is the learning in RL?

How the environment evolves is unknown.

- Online RL: The agent learns while interacting.
- Batch RL: The agent learns from *historical* data.

Technical challenge: We must learn a good policy from data collected using an unknown *different* policy.



In 1948 ...



3 hours' writing by one girl

ONE girl in a few loans can write sind information for half a dozen or more different departments of poor basiness. The versatile Addressegraph surthed of mechanising paperwork speads the work in every phase of business.

The theulgery of weiting or typing repetitive information is aliminated. Instead you put information on business forces at the rate of 3,000 words or 30,000 figures a minute without a single second.

Large or small business can use Addressograph in every department. Some stilling a controllined Addressograph department—solvers find it pays to put in separate departmental invaliations. You can use Addressing-uph sopily ment with existing systems and southers—alone or in combination with other business machines.

The Addressegraph method saves wherever you write the same information more than once. You can handle high volume julis easily. You can make hig savings on even small more.

An Addressingraph man, trained in simplified business methods, will be glad to anoly your problems, make recommendations. Call the local Addressingraph agency or write Addressingraph Multigraph Corporation. Cleanland 17, Ohio.



Antonograph and Richlands are Buy. Sook British of Address of the Confession Street, S

COMMENTS ON THE ORIGIN AND APPLICATION OF MARKOV DECISION PROCESSES

RONALD A. HOWARD

Stanford University, Palo Alto, California 94305-4026, rhoward@stanford.edu

The reward for a transition, under a given catalog mailing policy, was simply the marginal profit from the transition less the cost of the catalogs mailed. Finally, the transition probabilities were computed by special runs from the Addressograph system. In fact, it was the existence of this system that made the entire approach feasible.

The optimum policy, for both discounted present value and average reward criteria, was found by value iteration. This all took place in the days when computers still had vacuum tubes. And so the runs were fairly timeconsuming, but still economical. The optimum policy was different from the policy that had previously been used.

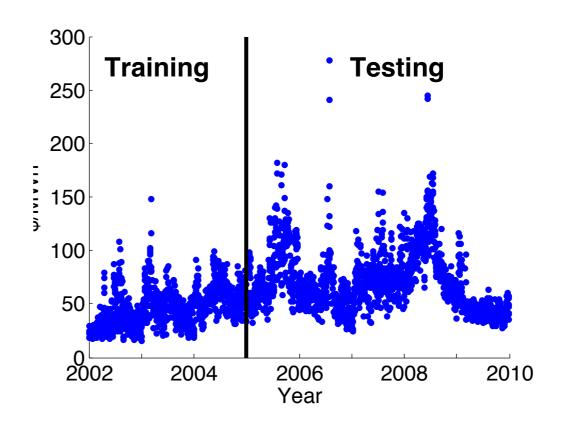
The optimum policy was not the policy that maximized expected immediate return, but rather a policy that balanced this return with the effect on future state transitions. The net result was a predicted few percent increase in the profitability of the catalog operation, which, however, amounted to several million dollars per year.

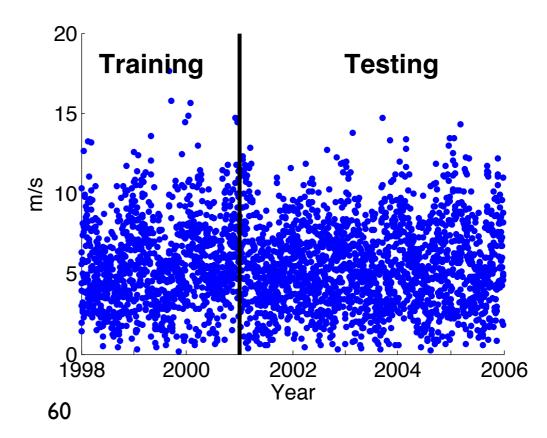
Sears, Roebuck

Management Science **14**(7)503–507.

In 2013: Managing a wind turbine with storage







How one electricity market works

At midnight, the price for each hour the next day is revealed.

• The agent then chooses how much to promise to supply.

Electricity generation depends nonlinearly on wind strength.

- Failure to supply => 2x penalty.
- Overproduction => dumping or storage.

Max storage is 30, 60, or 120 hours of average production.

Research challenges

Multidimensional, continuous state space

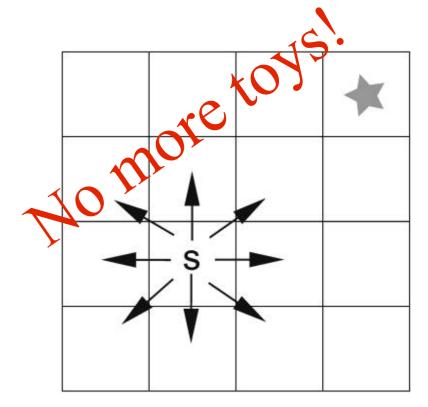
• State vector contains wind speeds, storage level, and prices $(w_1, ..., w_{24}, s_{24}, p_1, ..., p_{24})$

Multidimensional, continuous action space

• Action vector is commitments $(a_1, a_2, ..., a_{24})$

Training period: 2 years

Test period: 3 years



NSPI algorithm

• Stage 1: Learn a linear transition model:

$$(w_1, w_2, ..., w_{24}, y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4) T_w = (w'_1, w'_2, ..., w'_{24})$$

 $(p_1, p_2, ..., p_{24}, y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4) T_p = (p'_1, p'_2, ..., p'_{24})$

• Stage 2: Learn coefficients of an approximate Q function:

$$Q(s,a) = Q(\hat{s}) = \sum_{j=1}^m \phi_j([s\;a]T)v_j$$

• At midnight each test day, choose the best action vector:

$$a^* = \operatorname*{argmax}_a Q(s,a) = \operatorname*{argmax}_a \sum_{j=1}^m \phi_j([s \; a]T) v_j$$

Algorithm 1 NSPI (next-state policy iteration)

```
// Input: training samples D = \{(s_i, a_i, r_i, s_i')\}_{i=1}^n
// \phi: basis functions \phi_1 to \phi_m
// \gamma: discount factor
// \epsilon: stopping criterion
// Output: weight vector v' representing the learned policy
Stage 1: Solve [f_s(s_i) f_a(a_i)]T = s_i'|_{i=1}^n for T
Stage 2: // LSPI
v' \leftarrow 0
repeat
    v \leftarrow v'
    A \leftarrow 0
                                     // m \times m matrix
    b \leftarrow 0
                                     // m \times 1 column vector
    for each (s, a, r, s') \in D do
         s_{next} = [f_s(s) f_a(a)]T // estimate the next state for s
         a^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{a'} \phi([f_s(s') f_a(a')]T) \cdot v
         s'_{next} = [f_s(s') f_a(a^*)]T // estimate the next state for s'
         A \leftarrow A + \phi(s_{next}) \Big( \phi(s_{next}) - \gamma \phi(s'_{next}) \Big)^T
         b \leftarrow b + \phi(s_{next})r
    end for
    Solve Av' = b for v'
until ||v-v'||<\epsilon
```

Compared to previous research

Average annual reward in \$1,000 for fixed storage sizes for ADPS and NSPI.

Site	Storage capacity	ADPS	NSPI
NC	7.5MWh	114.86	149.80
	15MWh	163.51	184.70
	30MWh	205.38	208.95
ОН	7.5MWh	90.53	123.32
	15MWh	131.83	155.67
	30MWh	171.82	181.09
RI	7.5MWh	107.60	138.56
	15MWh	155.00	173.23
	30MWh	200.83	197.75

Observations:

- NSPI yields higher profit given limited storage.
- The marginal benefit of storage is diminishing.

Needed to be more realistic ...

- Storing electricity is at best 75% efficient.
- Storage should be used for general arbitrage.
- Wind speeds and electricity prices are not independent.
- Tomorrow's prices may depend on today's actions.
- Ultimately, game theory.

Discussion

• Applied machine learning = inference from data + optimization

• More data = more opportunities

• Success = domain understanding + methods + leadership