Identifying Hidden Contexts

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This talk is about

- hidden context / dependencies in the data
- What is context?
- Why identify hidden context?
- Data transformation (rotation) for identifying context
- Outlook

What is context?

- Supervised learning: (X,y) data and labels
- (X,y,z) data, labels and context

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- Supervised learning: (X,y) data and labels
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- time does not explain the label P(y|z) = P(y)
- but time helps to explain the label using temperature P(y|X,z) ≠ P(y|X)

Why identifying context?

- To improve classification accuracy
 - two level decision making in static scenarios

- dynamic (evolving) scenarios
- Better understand the data

 Identifying contexts can be seen as data preprocessing (filter) step

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Identifying hidden context

- Grouping (clustering) the data (X)
- But clases (y) instead of contexts (z) might be captured
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Proposed Approach

- 'Hide' class label information from the data
- i.e. transform the data (X \rightarrow X') so that it is not correlated with the label (y)
- then cluster the transformation X'
- record the contexts (z)
- add context categories to the original dataset (X,y,z)

How to 'hide' class label information

- Three apporaches:
 - Overlay
 - Projections
 - Fature underselection

Overlay

- Normalize each class separately to zero mean
- $X' = \{X^{(I)} mean(X^{(I)}) \cup X^{(II)} mean(X^{(II)})\}$
- Cluster X'

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Projection

- Rotate the data X' = V X
- Maximizing the Fisher criterion $J^{LDA} = \frac{v^T S_b v}{v^T S_w v}$



- maximizes between-class variance and minimizes \bullet with-class variance
- We want the opposite thus flip the criterion

$$J^{PR} = \frac{v^T S_w v}{v^T S_b v}$$

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- Maximizing the Fisher criterion



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Feature underselection

- Measure correlations with individual features $r_i = corr(x_i, y)$
- Discard the most correlated features

$$|r_{i1}| < |r_{i2}| < \dots < |r_{ip-1}| < |r_{ip}|$$

Cluster X'

Evaluation

- How good are the identified contexts?
- Normalized mutual information for $NMI = \frac{I(y,z)}{\sqrt{H(y)H(z)}}$
- *But* random contexts would give NMI = 0
- Adapted measures from clustering
 - Validity learnable mapping from data to context $X \rightarrow z$
 - Stability {X_u U X_q}: train clust_u(X_u) and clust_q(X_q), c_u=clust_u(X_q), c_q = clust_q(X_q), compare c_u and c_q

Experimentals

- 30 classification datasets from UCI and other sources
- Size 500 67000, dimensionality 4-100, number of classes 2-11
- Split data into groups:
 - low-dimensional <10
 - medium-dimensional 10-19
 - high-dimensional >=20

Results

- Transformation works well for low-medium dimensional data
- Less well, but ok for high dimensional data



Results

- Gain in independence w.r.t. simple clustering is larger for
 - low dimensional data and
 - data with larger number of classes



Case study

- Two level classification
 - transformation $X \rightarrow X'$
 - identify context X' \rightarrow z Level 1
 - select the model L₂
 - classify $L_z: X \rightarrow y$

Level 2

- Six base classifiers, 3 transformations
- K=2: EN►PR►FU►OV►AL►CL►RN
- K=4: EN►OV►FU►CL►PR►AL►RN
- K=7: EN▶PR▶AL▶OV▶FU▶RN▶CL

Outlook

- More trasfrmations for independence
 - Clustering with constraints
 - Decision trees with 'twisted' splitting criteria
- Related tasks: managing hidden dependencies
- Modeling evolving data as a mixture of contexts

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(a) clustering

(b) overlay

(c) projection





