Principles of Knowledge Discovery in Data

Fall 2007

Chapter 1: Introduction to Data Mining

Dr. Osmar R. Zaïane

University of Alberta

Summary of Last Class

- Course requirements and objectives
- Evaluation and grading
- Projects and assignments
- Recommended Textbooks
- Tentative Course schedule
- Course content
- Brief Introduction to some Data Mining Tasks

Course Content

- Introduction to Data Mining
  - Association Analysis
  - Sequential Pattern Analysis
  - Classification and prediction
  - Contrast Sets
  - Data Clustering
  - Outlier Detection
  - Web Mining
  - Other topics if time permits (spatial data, biomedical data, etc.)

Chapter 1 Objectives

Get a rough initial idea about what knowledge discovery in data and data mining are.

Get an overview about the functionalities and the issues in data mining.
We Are Data Rich but Information Poor

Databases are too big

Data Mining can help discover knowledge

Terrorbytes

What Should We Do?

We are not trying to find the needle in the haystack because DBMSs know how to do that.

We are merely trying to understand the consequences of the presence of the needle, if it exists.

What Led Us To This?

Necessity is the Mother of Invention

- Technology is available to help us collect data
  - Bar code, scanners, satellites, cameras, etc.
- Technology is available to help us store data
  - Databases, data warehouses, variety of repositories...
- We are starving for knowledge (competitive edge, research, etc.)

We are swamped by data that continuously pours on us.
1. We do not know what to do with this data
2. We need to interpret this data in search for new knowledge

Evolution of Database Technology

- **1950s:** First computers, use of computers for census
- **1960s:** Data collection, database creation (hierarchical and network models)
- **1970s:** Relational data model, relational DBMS implementation.
- **1980s:** Ubiquitous RDBMS, advanced data models (extended-relational, OO, deductive, etc.) and application-oriented DBMS (spatial, scientific, engineering, etc.).
- **1990s:** Data mining and data warehousing, massive media digitization, multimedia databases, and Web technology.

Notice that storage prices have consistently decreased in the last decades
What Is Our Need?

Extract interesting knowledge (rules, regularities, patterns, constraints) from data in large collections.

A Brief History of Data Mining Research

- 1989 IJCAI Workshop on Knowledge Discovery in Databases (Piatetsky-Shapiro)
- 1991-1994 Workshops on Knowledge Discovery in Databases
- 1995-1998 International Conferences on Knowledge Discovery in Databases and Data Mining (KDD’95-98)
- 1998-2007 ACM SIGKDD annual conferences
- 2001-2007 IEEE ICDM annual conferences

Introduction - Outline

- What kind of information are we collecting?
- What are Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery?
- What kind of data can be mined?
- What can be discovered?
- Is all that is discovered interesting and useful?
- How do we categorize data mining systems?
- What are the issues in Data Mining?
- Are there application examples?

Data Collected

- Business transactions
- Scientific data (biology, physics, etc.)
- Medical and personal data
- Surveillance video and pictures
- Satellite sensing
- Games
Data Collected (Cont’d)

- Digital media
- CAD and Software engineering
- Virtual worlds
- Text reports and memos
- The World Wide Web
- RFID and Sensor Networks

Knowledge Discovery

Process of non trivial extraction of implicit, previously unknown and potentially useful information from large collections of data

Introduction - Outline

- What kind of information are we collecting?
- What are Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery?
- What kind of data can be mined?
- What can be discovered?
- Is all that is discovered interesting and useful?
- How do we categorize data mining systems?
- What are the issues in Data Mining?
- Are there application examples?

Many Steps in KD Process

- Gathering the data together
- Cleanse the data and fit it in together
- Select the necessary data
- Crunch and squeeze the data to extract the essence of it
- Evaluate the output and use it
So What Is Data Mining?

- In theory, *Data Mining* is a step in the knowledge discovery process. It is the extraction of implicit information from a large dataset.
- In practice, data mining and knowledge discovery are becoming synonyms.
- There are other equivalent terms: KDD, knowledge extraction, discovery of regularities, patterns discovery, data archeology, data dredging, business intelligence, information harvesting…
- Notice the misnomer for data mining. Shouldn’t it be knowledge mining?

Data Mining: A KDD Process

- Data mining: the core of knowledge discovery process.

Steps of a KDD Process

- Learning the application domain (relevant prior knowledge and goals of application)
- Gathering and integrating of data
- Cleaning and preprocessing data (may take 60% of effort!)
- Reducing and projecting data (Find useful features, dimensionality/variable reduction,…)
- Choosing functions of data mining (summarization, classification, regression, association, clustering,…)
- Choosing the mining algorithm(s)
- Data mining: search for patterns of interest
- Evaluating results
- Interpretation: analysis of results. (visualization, alteration, removing redundant patterns, …)
- Use of discovered knowledge

KDD Steps can be Merged

Data cleaning + data integration = data pre-processing
Data selection + data transformation = data consolidation

KDD Is an Iterative Process
KDD at the Confluence of Many Disciplines

- Database Systems
- Artificial Intelligence
- Information Retrieval
- High Performance Computing
- Statistics
- Visualization
- Machine Learning
- Neural Networks
- Agents
- Knowledge Representation
- Computer graphics
- Human Computer Interaction
- 3D representation
- Statistical and Mathematical Modeling
- Indexing
- Inverted files
- Parallel and Distributed Computing
- Other

Introduction - Outline

- What kind of information are we collecting?
- What are Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery?
- What kind of data can be mined?
- What can be discovered?
- Is all that is discovered interesting and useful?
- How do we categorize data mining systems?
- Are there the issues in Data Mining?
- Application examples?

Data Mining: On What Kind of Data?

- Flat Files
- Heterogeneous and legacy databases
- Relational databases
  and other DB: Object-oriented and object-relational databases
- Transactional databases
  Transaction(TID, Timestamp, UID, {item1, item2,…})

Data Mining: On What Kind of Data?

- Data warehouses
  
  The Data Cube and The Sub-Space Aggregates
Construction of Multi-dimensional Data Cube

Data Mining: On What Kind of Data?
- Multimedia databases
- Spatial Databases
- Time Series Data and Temporal Data
Data Mining: On What Kind of Data?

- Text Documents
- The World Wide Web
  - The content of the Web
  - The structure of the Web
  - The usage of the Web

Introduction - Outline

- What kind of information are we collecting?
- What are Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery?
- What kind of data can be mined?
- What can be discovered?
- Is all that is discovered interesting and useful?
- How do we categorize data mining systems?
- What are the issues in Data Mining?
- Are there application examples?

What Can Be Discovered?

What can be discovered depends upon the data mining task employed.

- Descriptive DM tasks
  - Describe general properties
- Predictive DM tasks
  - Infer on available data

Data Mining Functionality

- Characterization:
  Summarization of general features of objects in a target class.
  (Concept description)
  *Ex: Characterize grad students in Science*

- Discrimination (also Contrasting):
  Comparison of general features of objects between a target class and a contrasting class. (Concept comparison)
  *Ex: Compare students in Science and students in Arts*
Data Mining Functionality (Con’t)

• Association:
  Studies the frequency of items occurring together in transactional databases.
  Ex: \( \text{buys}(x, \text{bread}) \rightarrow \text{buys}(x, \text{milk}) \).

• Prediction:
  Predicts some unknown or missing attribute values based on other information.
  Ex: Forecast the sale value for next week based on available data.

• Classification:
  Organizes data in given classes based on attribute values. (supervised classification)
  Ex: classify students based on final result.

• Clustering:
  Organizes data in classes based on attribute values. (unsupervised classification)
  Ex: group crime locations to find distribution patterns.
  Minimize inter-class similarity and maximize intra-class similarity

Data Mining Functionality (Con’t)

• Outlier analysis:
  Identifies and explains exceptions (surprises)

• Time-series analysis:
  Analyzes trends and deviations; regression, sequential pattern, similar sequences…

Introduction - Outline

• What kind of information are we collecting?
• What are Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery?
• What kind of data can be mined?
• What can be discovered?
  • Is all that is discovered interesting and useful?
• How do we categorize data mining systems?
• What are the issues in Data Mining?
• Are there application examples?
Is all that is Discovered Interesting?

A data mining operation may generate thousands of patterns, not all of them are interesting.

– Suggested approach: Human-centered, query-based, focused mining

Data Mining results are sometimes so large that we may need to mine it too (Meta-Mining?)

How to measure? ⇒ Interestingness

Interestingness

• Objective vs. subjective interestingness measures:
  – Objective: based on statistics and structures of patterns, e.g., support, confidence, lift, correlation coefficient etc.
  – Subjective: based on user’s beliefs in the data, e.g., unexpectedness, novelty, etc.

Interestingness measures: A pattern is interesting if it is
  ➢ easily understood by humans
  ➢ valid on new or test data with some degree of certainty.
  ➢ potentially useful
  ➢ novel, or validates some hypothesis that a user seeks to confirm

Can we Find All and Only the Interesting Patterns?

• Find all the interesting patterns: Completeness.
  – Can a data mining system find all the interesting patterns?

• Search for only interesting patterns: Optimization.
  – Can a data mining system find only the interesting patterns?
    – Approaches
      • First find all the patterns and then filter out the uninteresting ones.
      • Generate only the interesting patterns --- mining query optimization (defining and pushing constraints)

Like the concept of precision and recall in information retrieval

Introduction - Outline

• What kind of information are we collecting?
• What are Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery?
• What kind of data can be mined?
• What can be discovered?
• Is all that is discovered interesting and useful?
• How do we categorize data mining systems?
• What are the issues in Data Mining?
• Are there application examples?
Data Mining: Classification Schemes

- There are many data mining systems. Some are specialized and some are comprehensive.

- Different views, different classifications:
  - Kinds of knowledge to be discovered,
  - Kinds of databases to be mined, and
  - Kinds of techniques adopted.

Four Schemes in Classification

- **Knowledge to be mined:**
  - Summarization (characterization), comparison, association, classification, clustering, trend, deviation and pattern analysis, etc.
  - Mining knowledge at different abstraction levels: primitive level, high level, multiple-level, etc.

- **Techniques adopted:**
  - Database-oriented, data warehouse (OLAP), machine learning, statistics, visualization, neural network, etc.

Four Schemes in Classification (con’t)

- **Data source to be mined:** (application data)
  - Transaction data, time-series data, spatial data, multimedia data, text data, legacy data, heterogeneous/distributed data, World Wide Web, etc.

- **Data model on which the data to be mined is drawn:**
  - Relational database, extended/object-relational database, object-oriented database, deductive database, data warehouse, flat files, etc.

Designations for Mining Complex Types of Data

- **Text Mining:**

- **Spatial Mining:**
  - Geographic information systems, medical image database.

- **Multimedia Mining:**
  - Image and video/audio databases.

- **Web Mining:**
  - Unstructured and semi-structured data
  - Web access pattern analysis
OLAP Mining: An Integration of Data Mining and Data Warehousing

- On-line analytical mining of data warehouse data: integration of mining and OLAP technologies.
- Necessity of mining knowledge and patterns at different levels of abstraction by drilling/rolling, pivoting, slicing/dicing, etc.
- Interactive characterization, comparison, association, classification, clustering, prediction.
- Integration of different data mining functions, e.g., characterized classification, first clustering and then association, etc.

(Source JH)

Introduction - Outline

- What kind of information are we collecting?
- What are Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery?
- What kind of data can be mined?
- What can be discovered?
- Is all that is discovered interesting and useful?
- How do we categorize data mining systems?
- What are the issues in Data Mining?
- Are there application examples?

Requirements and Challenges in Data Mining

- Security and social issues
- User interface issues
- Mining methodology issues
- Performance issues
- Data source issues

Requirements/Challenges in Data Mining (Con’t)

- Security and social issues:
  - Social impact
    - Private and sensitive data is gathered and mined without individual’s knowledge and/or consent.
    - New implicit knowledge is disclosed (confidentiality, integrity)
    - Appropriate use and distribution of discovered knowledge (sharing)
  - Regulations
    - Need for privacy and DM policies
Requirements/Challenges in Data Mining (Con’t)

• User Interface Issues:
  ~ Data visualization.
    • Understandability and interpretation of results
    • Information representation and rendering
    • Screen real-estate
  ~ Interactivity
    • Manipulation of mined knowledge
    • Focus and refine mining tasks
    • Focus and refine mining results
    • Visual Data Mining (Discovering Interactively)

Requirements/Challenges in Data Mining (Con’t)

• Mining methodology issues
  ~ Mining different kinds of knowledge in databases.
  ~ Interactive mining of knowledge at multiple levels of abstraction.
  ~ Incorporation of background knowledge
  ~ Data mining query languages and ad-hoc data mining.
  ~ Expression and visualization of data mining results.
  ~ Handling noise and incomplete data
  ~ Pattern evaluation: the interestingness problem.

Requirements/Challenges in Data Mining (Con’t)

• Performance issues:
  ~ Efficiency and scalability of data mining algorithms.
    • Linear algorithms are needed: no medium-order polynomial complexity, and certainly no exponential algorithms.
    • Sampling
  ~ Parallel and distributed methods
    • Incremental mining
    • Can we divide and conquer?

Requirements/Challenges in Data Mining (Con’t)

• Data source issues:
  ~ Diversity of data types
    • Handling complex types of data
    • Mining information from heterogeneous databases and global information systems.
    • Is it possible to expect a DM system to perform well on all kinds of data? (distinct algorithms for distinct data sources)
  ~ Data glut
    • Are we collecting the right data with the right amount?
    • Distinguish between the data that is important and the data that is not.
Requirements/Challenges in Data Mining (Con’t)

• Other issues
  – Integration of the discovered knowledge with existing knowledge: A knowledge fusion problem.

Potential and/or Successful Applications

• Business data analysis and decision support
  – Marketing focalization
    • Recognizing specific market segments that respond to particular characteristics
    • Return on mailing campaign (target marketing)
  – Customer Profiling
    • Segmentation of customer for marketing strategies and/or product offerings
    • Customer behaviour understanding
    • Customer retention and loyalty

Introduction - Outline

• What kind of information are we collecting?
• What are Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery?
• What kind of data can be mined?
• What can be discovered?
• Is all that is discovered interesting and useful?
• How do we categorize data mining systems?
• What are the issues in Data Mining?
• Are there application examples?

Potential and/or Successful Applications (con’t)

• Business data analysis and decision support (con’t)
  – Market analysis and management
    • Provide summary information for decision-making
    • Market basket analysis, cross selling, market segmentation.
    • Resource planning
  – Risk analysis and management
    • “What if” analysis
    • Forecasting
    • Pricing analysis, competitive analysis.
    • Time-series analysis (Ex. stock market)
### Potential and/or Successful Applications (con’t)

**Fraud detection**
- Detecting telephone fraud:
  - Telephone call model: destination of the call, duration, time of day or week. Analyze patterns that deviate from an expected norm.
  - British Telecom identified discrete groups of callers with frequent intra-group calls, especially mobile phones, and broke a multimillion dollar fraud.
- Detecting automotive and health insurance fraud
- Detection of credit-card fraud
- Detecting suspicious money transactions (money laundering)

**Text mining:**
- Message filtering (e-mail, newsgroups, etc.)
- Newspaper articles analysis

**Medicine**
- Association pathology - symptoms
- DNA
- Medical imaging

**Sports**
- IBM Advanced Scout analyzed NBA game statistics (shots blocked, assists, and fouls) to gain competitive advantage.
  - Spin-off → VirtualGold Inc. for NBA, NHL, etc.

**Astronomy**
- JPL and the Palomar Observatory discovered 22 quasars with the help of data mining.
- Identifying volcanoes on Jupiter.

**Surveillance cameras**
- Use of stereo cameras and outlier analysis to detect suspicious activities or individuals.

**Web surfing and mining**
- IBM Surf-Aid applies data mining algorithms to Web access logs for market-related pages to discover customer preference and behavior pages (e-commerce)
- Adaptive web sites / improving Web site organization, etc.
- Pre-fetching and caching web pages
- Jungo: discovering best sales
Warning: Data Mining Should Not be Used Blindly!

- Data mining approaches find regularities from history, but history is not the same as the future.
- Association does not dictate trend nor causality!?
  - Drinking diet drinks leads to obesity!
  - David Heckerman’s counter-example (1997):
    - buy hamburgers 33% of the time, buy hot dogs 33% of the time, and buy both hamburgers and hot dogs 33% of the time; moreover, they buy barbecue sauce if and only if they buy hamburgers.
    - hot dogs $\Rightarrow$ barbecue-sauce has both high support and confidence.(Of course, the rule hamburgers$\Rightarrow$ barbecue-sauce even higher confidence, but that is an obvious association.)
    - A manager who has a deal on hot dogs may choose to sell them at a large discount, hoping to increase profit by simultaneously raising the price of barbecue sauce.
    - HOT-DOGS causes BARBECUE-SAUCE is not part of any possible causal model, could avoid a pricing fiasco.