



Extremely  
imbalanced  
data sets

Britsch,  
Gagunashvili,  
Schmelling

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$D^0$  MC

Cover type  
data

Compare  
ROC curves

Conclusions  
and outlook

Back up slides

# Classifying extremely imbalanced data sets

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2010-2-23, ACAT 2010, Jaipur



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# Methods for imbalance

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- in HEP often **imbalanced** problems  
*e.g.* much more background than signal events
- we have a method tested on  $\Lambda$  selection  
(background to signal ratio  $< 100$ )
- here try it on a  $D^0$ -selection w/o usage of particle  
identification (**background to signal ratio  $\sim 3000$** )
- it turns out that this **extreme imbalance** needs special  
care
- I will briefly recap our basic methods in the following



# Our MVA-method

- using RIPPER classifier, rule based

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```
(V1 >= 1.039316) and (V2 <= 0.307358)
and (V3 <= 0.270767) and (V4 >= 0.800645)
=> class=Lambda
(V1 >= 0.637403) and (V2 <= 0.159043)
and (V3 <= 0.12081) and (V5 >= 149.2332)
and (V3 >= 0.003371)
=> class=Lambda
=> class=BG
```



# Our MVA-method

- using RIPPER classifier, rule based
- introduce cost to change outcome (instead of cutting on a discriminant)

	pred. BG	pred. signal
tr. BG	0	$C(\text{BG}, s)$
tr. signal	$C(s, \text{BG})$	0

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# Our MVA-method

- using RIPPER classifier, rule based
- introduce cost to change outcome (instead of cutting on a discriminant)
- the cost is introduced by weights in training  
→ new classifier model for each cost

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# Our MVA-method

- using RIPPER classifier, rule based
- introduce cost to change outcome (instead of cutting on a discriminant)
- the cost is introduced by weights in training → new classifier model for each cost
- use bagging to stabilize algorithm: like **boosting**, but without weights

orig. sample	1	2	3	4	5
1 <sup>st</sup> iteration	2	5	1	1	4
2 <sup>nd</sup> iteration	5	3	2	2	4
r <sup>th</sup> iteration	1	1	5	1	4

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# Our MVA-method

- using RIPPER classifier, rule based
- introduce cost to change outcome (instead of cutting on a discriminant)
- the cost is introduced by weights in training  
→ new classifier model for each cost
- use bagging to stabilize algorithm: like **boosting**, but without weights
- make one or two preselections for large training sets to prevent **memory overflow** and to save time

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# Application of MVA method

- classification step using WEKA<sup>1</sup> package:
  - 1 bagging
  - 2 set cost (instance weighting)
  - 3 apply RIPPER

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.cs.waikato.ac.nz/ml/weka/>



# Application of MVA method

- classification step using WEKA<sup>1</sup> package:
  - 1 bagging
  - 2 set cost (instance weighting)
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- for preselection: extra classification step:

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# Application of MVA method

- classification step using WEKA<sup>1</sup> package:
  - 1 bagging
  - 2 set cost (instance weighting)
  - 3 apply RIPPER
- for preselection: extra classification step:
  - 1 preclassification incl. bagging – high cost for loosing  $D^0$   
→ keep almost all  $D^0$ s, reduce background (BG)

	pr. BG	pr. $D^0$
tr. BG	0	1
tr. $D^0$	200	0

preselection cost matrix

<sup>1</sup><http://www.cs.waikato.ac.nz/ml/weka/>

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  - 1 bagging
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  - 3 apply RIPPER
- for preselection: extra classification step:
  - 1 preclassification incl. bagging – high cost for loosing  $D^0$  → keep almost all  $D^0$ s, reduce background (BG)
  - 2 classify including bagging with high cost for wrongly accepted BG

	pr. BG	pr. $D^0$
tr. BG	0	1
tr. $D^0$	200	0

preselection cost matrix

	pr. BG	pr. $D^0$
tr. BG	0	x
tr. $D^0$	1	0

main cost matrix

<sup>1</sup><http://www.cs.waikato.ac.nz/ml/weka/>

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# Application of MVA method

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  - 1 bagging
  - 2 set cost (instance weighting)
  - 3 apply RIPPER
- for preselection: extra classification step:
  - 1 preclassification incl. bagging – high cost for loosing  $D^0$   
→ keep almost all  $D^0$ s, reduce background (BG)
  - 2 classify including bagging with high cost for wrongly accepted BG
  - 3 to produce ROC curve: scan cost  $x$   
(one classifier model per point in ROC curve)

	pr. BG	pr. $D^0$
tr. BG	0	1
tr. $D^0$	200	0

preselection cost matrix

	pr. BG	pr. $D^0$
tr. BG	0	$x$
tr. $D^0$	1	0

main cost matrix

<sup>1</sup><http://www.cs.waikato.ac.nz/ml/weka/>



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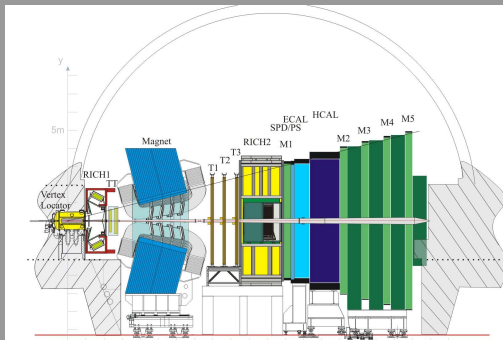
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# The LHCb experiment

- one of the four large experiments at  $pp$ -collider LHC
- made for precision measurements of CP violation & rare decays
- forward spectrometer
- Only tracking information used for these studies, no RICH



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# Decay and used data

- $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ + K^-$
- LHCb minimum bias Monte Carlo,  $3.6 \cdot 10^7$  events from 2006,  $\sqrt{s} = 14$  TeV
- candidates: pairs of differently charged tracks passing through full spectrometer
- distance of closest approach  $< 10$  mm
- use 14 geometric and kinematic variables

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# Decay and used data

- $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ + K^-$
- LHCb minimum bias Monte Carlo,  $3.6 \cdot 10^7$  events from 2006,  $\sqrt{s} = 14$  TeV
- candidates: pairs of differently charged tracks passing through full spectrometer
- distance of closest approach  $< 10$  mm
- use 14 geometric and kinematic variables
- training data sets: same number of signal  
**increasing number of background**

data set	# BG	# sig.	# presel.
test	$6.5 \cdot 10^6$	1827	—
training small	ca 10'000	1851	0
training mid	ca 60'000	1851	1
training larger	ca 240'000	1851	1
training largest	ca 1'000'000	1851	2

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# ROC curve, different # BG in training

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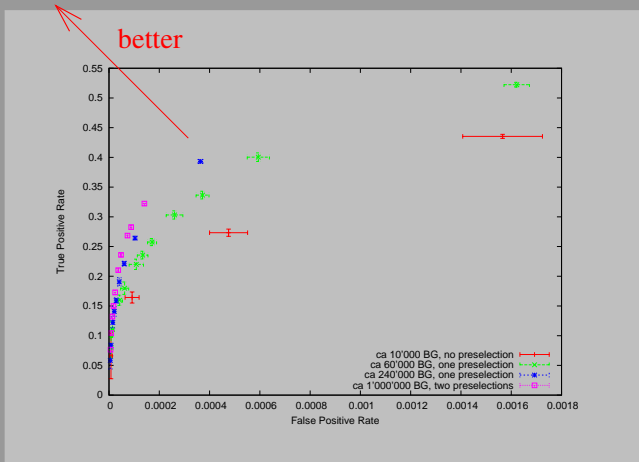
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ROC curve: true positive rate (TPR = **signal efficiency**) versus false positive rate (FPR = **background efficiency**)

# ROC curve (zoom), different # BG in training

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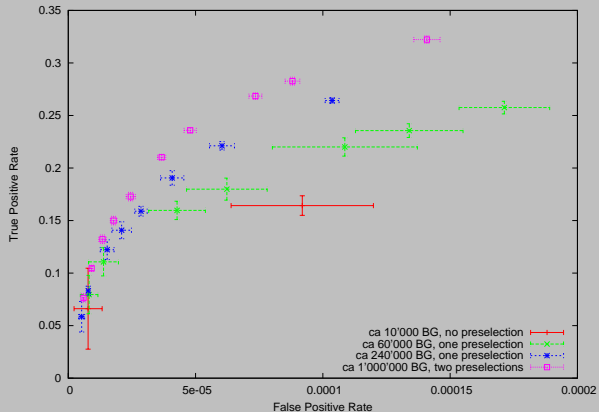
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# Significance – FPR, different # BG in training

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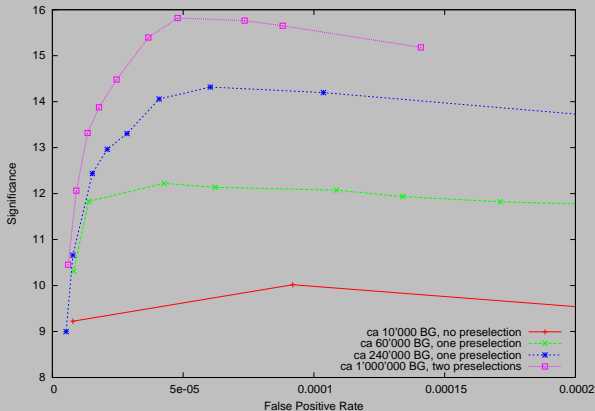
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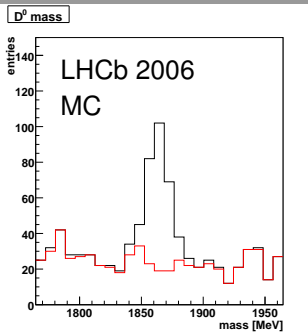
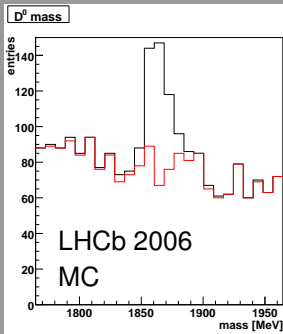
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$$\text{significance} = \frac{\# \text{signal}}{\sqrt{\# \text{signal} + \# \text{BG}}} \text{ after selection}$$



# Mass plot comparison to cuts based analysis



cuts based,  
same variables

multivariate analysis  
(for same signal yield)

No RICH PID information used

Britsch, XVII International Workshop on Deep-Inelastic Scattering and Related Subjects, 2009, Madrid

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# The forest cover type data set

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- we want to see if this behavior is special to our data set
- use some known data mining data set repository:  
<http://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/>
- we choose the one called **forest cover type**:  
predicting forest cover type from cartographic variables
- observation ( $30 \times 30$  meter cell) determined from US Forest Service (USFS) in the Roosevelt National Forest of northern Colorado
- use the 10 integer variables (leaving out 44 binary ones)
- use class 4 (of 0 to 7) as “signal”, rest “background” to get unbalanced data set





# Cover type training samples

Again: use different **training** sets with same number of signal but **increasing number of background**:

data set	# BG	# sig.	# presel.
test	ca 290'000	1365	–
training small	ca 10'000	1382	0
training mid	ca 60'000	1382	1
training large	ca 240'000	1382	1
training artificial	$5 \times$ ca 240'000	1382	2

additional artificial BG data by  $4 \times$  randomization of existing BG instances using SMOTE algorithm<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Chawla, Bowyer, Hall, Kegelmeyer, Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research 16 (2002) 341

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# Cover type ROC curves

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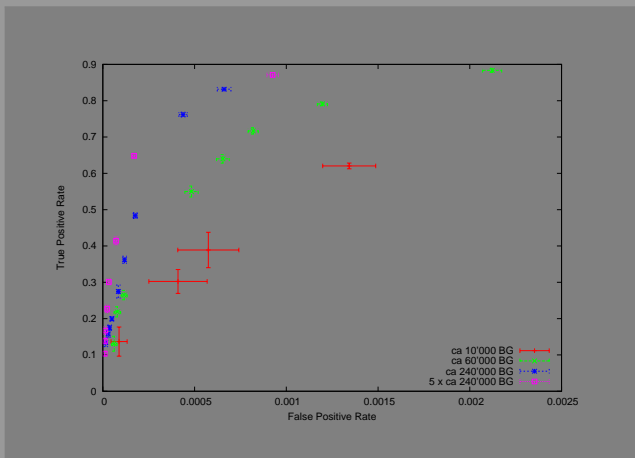
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We see the same effect here as in the  $D^0$  data.  
And the artificial data improves the result!



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# How do we make the error bars?

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- we have a different classifier model for each point in ROC space
- these classifier models depend on
  - 1 random choices in bagging and RIPPER
  - 2 training sample choice
- (1)  $\Rightarrow$  pure ROC curves look noisy

So we need:

- 1 a way to smooth the curve (average many)
- 2 a measure for the scatter (error bars)

# ROC curves w/ and w/o bootstrapping

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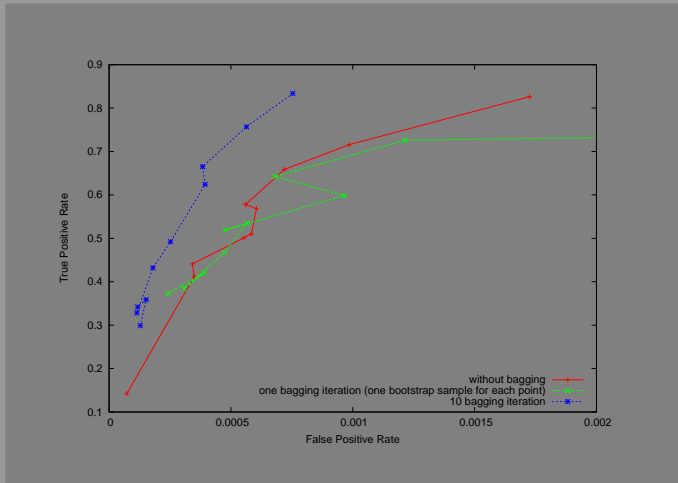
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red curve uses the **same** sample for training for all points, for the green training set re-sampled for each point.

# What does that mean?

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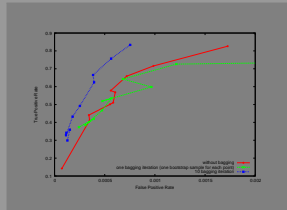
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- the less noisy curve (**red**) hides its scatter (*i.e.*, its dependence on the training set)
- **the same is true for ordinary ROC curves** (cutting on a discriminant)
- the more noisy curve (**green**) tells us something about this scatter
  - similar to using different (cross-validation) samples
  - bagging reduces this scatter by using many bagging iterations (**blue**)



# The way we do the errors

There are different methods discussed in literature, but **none** (that we could find) takes the scatter due to the training set into account.

This is our (ad hoc) method:

- do each main selection 10 times with different random seeds
- take the mean FPR and TPF as the point in ROC space
- similar to using 10 cross-validation samples
- take the standard deviations (SD) as errors in  $x$  and  $y$
- the result is what you have seen in the plots

What is the distribution like? → next slide for 300 samples for one cost

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# Distributions for 300 samples, one cost

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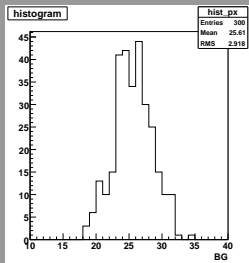
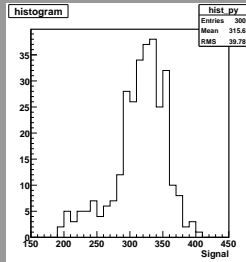
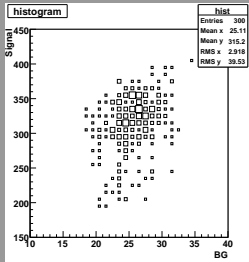
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- using 300 samples, one cost
- different random seeds, no averaging
- distributions are asymmetric and have tails
- → SD has no interpretation as confidence level





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# Conclusions

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For extremely imbalanced data sets:

- more BG in training is better for the LHCb- $D^0$  as well as the cover type data set – in an important region of FPR
- one or two preselections w/ less BG helps reducing data to handle large training sets
- even using extra artificial BG instances helps

For ROC curve errors:

- smooth ROC curves by doing 10 points w/ different random seed per point in ROC space
- get mean and standard deviation as position and error
- this seem reasonable and practical
- but it can not be interpreted as a confidence level



# Additional, ongoing and future work

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- more sophisticated ways to reduce data size w/o losing classification quality
- better ways to average ROC curves and to produce error bars
- try different classifiers (e.g., decision trees) to see that behavior is general
- trying these methods on rare decays



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cost-  
sensitivity

Bagging

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Cover type –  
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SMOTE

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- 8 Cost-sensitive classification
- 9 Bagging
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# $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$ -Cuts

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- long tracks only
- pion/kaon track #LHCbIDs  $> 27$
- $pt > 700$  MeV
- $pt_{\text{daughters}} > 500$  MeV
- $\cos \xi < -0.7$
- $FL > 1.5$  mm
- $DoCA < 0.07$  mm
- $\log \frac{DoCA}{FL} < -4.0$
- $IP < 0.08$  mm
- $IP_{\text{daughters}} > 0.05$  mm
- $\log \left( \frac{IP_K^2 + IP_\pi^2}{IP^2} \right) > 3.0$
- for MVA:  $FL \cdot \frac{M}{p} \approx ct$

$\xi$ : angle between impact vectors



# A new variable: $\xi$

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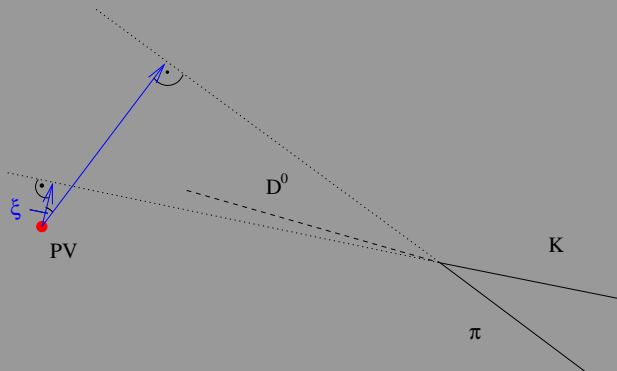
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# What are rule sets?

Technique for classifying events using a collection of "if...then..." rules. For example:

```
(IPpi >= 1.039316) and (DoCA <= 0.307358) and  
(IP <= 0.270767) and (IPp >= 0.800645)
```

```
=> class=Lambda
```

```
(IPpi >= 0.637403) and (DoCA <= 0.159043) and  
(IP <= 0.12081) and (ptpi >= 149.2332) and  
(IP >= 0.003371)
```

```
=> class=Lambda
```

```
=> class=BG
```

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# What is RIPPER, why RIPPER?

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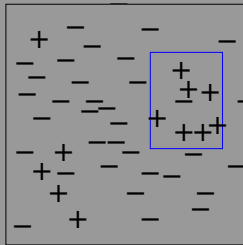
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SMOTE

- direct rule based classifier (Cohen 1995)
  - 1 divide training set into growing and pruning sets

# What is RIPPER, why RIPPER?

- direct rule based classifier (Cohen 1995)
  - ① divide training set into growing and pruning sets
  - ② grow a rule adding conditions greedily



rule 1

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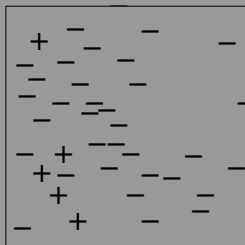
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# What is RIPPER, why RIPPER?

- direct rule based classifier (Cohen 1995)
  - ① divide training set into growing and pruning sets
  - ② grow a rule adding conditions greedily



delete rule 1 instances

Extremely imbalanced data sets

Britsch, Gagunashvili, Schmelling

Variables

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cost-sensitivity

Bagging

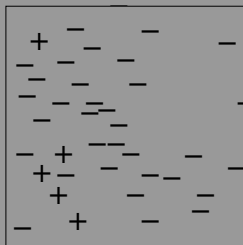
Cover type confidence

Cover type – the data

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# What is RIPPER, why RIPPER?

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  - 3 prune rule



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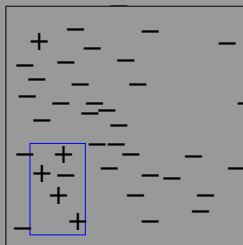
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  - ③ prune rule
  - ④ go to 2), stopping criteria: description length, error rate



rule 2

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# What is RIPPER, why RIPPER?

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  - 1 divide training set into growing and pruning sets
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## Advantages:

- rule set: relatively easy to interpret
- good for imbalanced problems





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# What is Cost-sensitive classification?

- assign a cost to wrongly (or correctly) classified instances ("events", "candidates")

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# What is Cost-sensitive classification?

- assign a cost to wrongly (or correctly) classified instances ("events", "candidates")
- → cost matrix, *e.g.*:

	predicted BG	predicted signal
true BG	0	100
true signal	1	0

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- classification algorithm minimizes cost
- mainly two ways:
  - threshold adjusting
  - instance weighting

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# Threshold adjusting

Let's start with a cost matrix as before:

	pred. BG	pred. signal
tr. BG	0	$C(\text{BG}, s)$
tr. signal	$C(s, \text{BG})$	0

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# Threshold adjusting

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Compare costs for a rule  $t$ , class  $s$ , BG:

$$C(BG|t) >? C(s|t)$$

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$$C(\text{BG}|t) = \sum_{j=s, \text{BG}} p(j|t)C(j, \text{BG}) >? C(s|t) = \sum_{j=s, \text{BG}} p(j|t)C(j, s)$$

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$t$  is assigned to the signal class if:

$$p(s|t)C(s, \text{BG}) > p(\text{BG}|t)C(\text{BG}, s)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} p(s|t)C(s, \text{BG}) &> p(\text{BG}|t)C(\text{BG}, s) \\ \Rightarrow p(s|t)C(s, \text{BG}) &> (1 - p(s|t))C(\text{BG}, s) \\ \Rightarrow p(s|t) &> \frac{C(\text{BG}, s)}{C(\text{BG}, s) + C(s, \text{BG})} \end{aligned}$$

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→ This is equivalent to a cut on the probability!

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# Sampling and instance weighting

- simplest forms:
  - undersampling by leaving out instances
  - oversampling by replicating instances

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$$p(s|t)C(s, BG) > p(BG|t)C(BG, s)$$

$C(s, BG)$  ( $C(BG, s)$ ) – replication factor of signal (BG)

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- **instance weighting**: automated sampling/*weighting* of instances according to *cost*
- for some classifiers (*e.g.* neural networks) not better than threshold adjusting
- better than threshold adjusting for classifiers that change with the balance of training data
- *e.g.* decision trees, rules – typically using error rate

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# What is bagging, why bagging?

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- similar to boosting, but no weights

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# What is bagging, why bagging?

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- similar to boosting, but no weights
- draw *with replacement* at random instances from your sample

orig. sample	1	2	3	4	5
1 <sup>st</sup> iteration	2	5	1	1	4
2 <sup>nd</sup> iteration	5	3	2	2	4



# What is bagging, why bagging?

- similar to boosting, but no weights
- draw *with replacement* at random instances from your sample
- do this  $r$  times

orig. sample	1	2	3	4	5
1 <sup>st</sup> iteration	2	5	1	1	4
2 <sup>nd</sup> iteration	5	3	2	2	4
$\vdots$					
$r^{\text{th}}$ iteration	1	1	5	1	4

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# What is bagging, why bagging?

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- similar to boosting, but no weights
- draw *with replacement* at random instances from your sample
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- let them vote or average their probabilities
- this works very well if your classifier is unstable, *i.e.* prone to change with noise (RIPPER, decision trees)

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# What is bagging, why bagging?

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- draw *with replacement* at random instances from your sample
- do this  $r$  times
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- let them vote or average their probabilities
- this works very well if your classifier is unstable, *i.e.* prone to change with noise (RIPPER, decision trees)
- reduces overfitting



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# Confidence intervals

From the distributions we can compute confidence intervals:

CL	kind	interval	interval center
90 %	signal	[229, 368]	299
90 %	BG	[20, 30]	25
68 %	signal	[282, 351]	317
68 %	BG	[23, 28]	26
SD	signal	[276, 354]	315
SD	BG	[22.2, 28.0]	25.1

Agreement between 68 % CL and SD, 90 % interval asymmetric for the signal.

Time limitations → not practical to produce 300 classifiers (× number of bagging iterations) per point in ROC space. So we have to live with the standard deviations as errors.

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# The data set – variables

- 54 variables, of which 44 are binary, the rest integer
- integer variables, *e.g.*,
  - Elevation: Elevation in meters
  - Slope: Slope in degrees
  - Vertical\_Distance\_To\_Hydrology: vert dist to nearest surface water features in meters
- binary variables are: wilderness types and soil types
- classes 1-7 (# instances):
  - 1 Spruce/Fir (211840)
  - 2 Lodgepole Pine (283301)
  - 3 Ponderosa Pine (35754)
  - 4 Cottonwood/Willow (2747)
  - 5 Aspen (9493)
  - 6 Douglas-fir (17367)
  - 7 Krummholz (20510)
- total # instances: 581012

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# Data preparation

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- first lesson: draw training & test sample *randomly*
- ignore the 40 soil type binary variables
- use class 4 (Cottonwood/Willow) as “signal”
- use all other classes as “background”
- $\Rightarrow$  2747 signal and 578265 BG
- use half as test sample



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# Randomization

## The SMOTE algorithm

- multiply # of instances in a cunning way (instead of just replication)

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# Randomization

## The SMOTE algorithm

- multiply # of instances in a cunning way (instead of just replication)
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  - find  $n$  nearest neighbors (NN) for each instance (candidate)

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    - choose one of the NN randomly for each instance

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    - choose one of the NN randomly for each instance
    - choose all variables randomly in between the value of this variable of the instance and that of its neighbor

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    - choose one of the NN randomly for each instance
    - choose all variables randomly in between the value of this variable of the instance and that of its neighbor
    - these variable choices make up a new instance

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