Reducing Nearest Neighbor Training Sets Optimally and Exactly Josiah Rohrer and Simon Weber



Simon Weber CCCG, Aug. 3rd, 2023









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We consider the *exact* case: No point $p \in \mathbb{R}^d$ may change classification.





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Fact: The set $rel(P) \subseteq P$ of relevant points induces the same nearest-neighbor classification as P.















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EMST + Extremal Points



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Eppstein's Open Question

Question: Can we reduce the training set *further* than to the relevant points, without changing the resulting classification? What is the *complexity* of finding the smallest subset $Q \subseteq P$ with the same classification?

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A minimum-cardinality reduced training set

Relevant Points are not Optimal



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Our Results

Theorem: If P is in general position, rel(P) is a minimum-cardinality reduced training set.

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Theorem: Computing a minimum-cardinality reduced training set is in P for points in \mathbb{R}^1 .

Theorem: Computing a minimum-cardinality reduced training set is NP-complete for points in \mathbb{R}^d for $d \ge 2$, even if there are only two colors.

no 3 collinear, no 4 cocircular

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Observation: Every Voronoi wall between differently classified cells must lie in the bisecting hyperplane of some $a, b \in Q \subseteq P$.

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Claim: Every hyperplane is the bisecting hyperplane of at most one pair of points $a, b \in P$.



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Fact: A point p is relevant if and only if it shares a (d-1)-dimensional Voronoi wall with a point of different classification.







Observation: A minimum-cardinality reduced training set has either 1 or 2 points per cell.







Reduction to *maximum weight independent set on interval graphs*:

Theorem [Hsiao, Tang, Chang, '92]: MaxW-IS on interval graphs is in P.



Reduction to *maximum weight independent set on interval graphs*:

• Find all chains (including the non-maximal ones)



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Observation: MaxW-IS \Leftrightarrow minimum-cardinality reduced training set

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- a 2-CNF formula $\phi = C_1 \land \ldots \land C_b$ over the variables x_1, \ldots, x_a , such that $G_{cyc}(\phi)$, the bipartite clause-variable graph of ϕ with an additional Hamiltonian cycle (x_1, \ldots, x_a, x_1) , is planar
- an integer k

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Theorem [Buchin et al., 2020]: V-cycle Max2SAT is NP-hard.









Variable Gadgets



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Channels



Channels



Channels



Reading the Value Off a Channel



Reading the Value Off a Channel



Reading the Value Off a Channel



Getting a Value Onto a Channel



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Getting a Value Onto a Channel


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 p_1 and p_2 need to be endpoints of channels!

p_1 O

 $\mathbf{O} p_2$













Some Missing Ingredients



Stretching



Claim: There exists an integer $N(\phi)$, such that there exists an assignment fulfilling at least k clauses of ϕ if and only if there exists a reduced training set $Q \subseteq P(\phi)$ with $|Q| \leq N(\phi) - k$.

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"Cheating is not beneficial"

Conclusion

Finding the minimum-cardinality reduced training set is NP-complete for $d \ge 2$ and any number of colors $k \ge 2$.

Open Question: For many "lossy" notions of nearest-neighbor condensation even *approximating* the minimum-cardinality subset fulfilling the required guarantees is NP-hard. What about our exact setting?