

# RULES-6: a simple rule induction algorithm for handling large data sets

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# RULe Extraction System

## Version 6

# RULES algorithm family

Deveoped over 20 years by D.T. Pham et al.

- |     |                       |      |
|-----|-----------------------|------|
| 1:  | Pham and Aksoy        | (93) |
| 2:  | Pham and Aksoy        | (95) |
| 3:  | Pham and Aksoy        | (95) |
| 3+: | Pham and Dimov        | (97) |
| 4:  | Pham and Dimov        | (97) |
| 5:  | Pham, Bigot and Dimov | (03) |
| F:  | Pham, Bigot and Dimov | (06) |
| 6:  | Pham and Afify        | (05) |
| 7:  | Pham and Shehzad      | (10) |
| 8:  | Pham and Pham         | (12) |

# RULES-3 Plus - Problems

Complete and consistent on training data

- ▶ Overfitting
- ▶ Noise

H measure is complex and not accurate enough

Equal-width discretisation is inefficient

# RULES-6

Inductive separate and conquer rule set learning

RuleSet =  $\emptyset$

**While** any example in TrainingSet is not covered

  s = any uncovered example (seed)

  InduceRule(s, TrainingSet, BeamWidth)

  Mark examples covered by Rule as covered

  RuleSet = RuleSet  $\cup$  {Rule}

**Return** RuleSet

# InduceOneRule(s, TrainingSet, BeamWidth: w)



pruned general to specific beam search

PartialRules = NewPartialRules =  $\emptyset$

BestRule = most general rule (no conditions)

PartialRules = PartialRules  $\cup$  {BestRule}

**While** (PartialRules  $\neq \emptyset$ )

$\forall Rule \in PartialRules :$

    Specialise(Rule, s)  $\Rightarrow$  NewPartialRules, BestRule

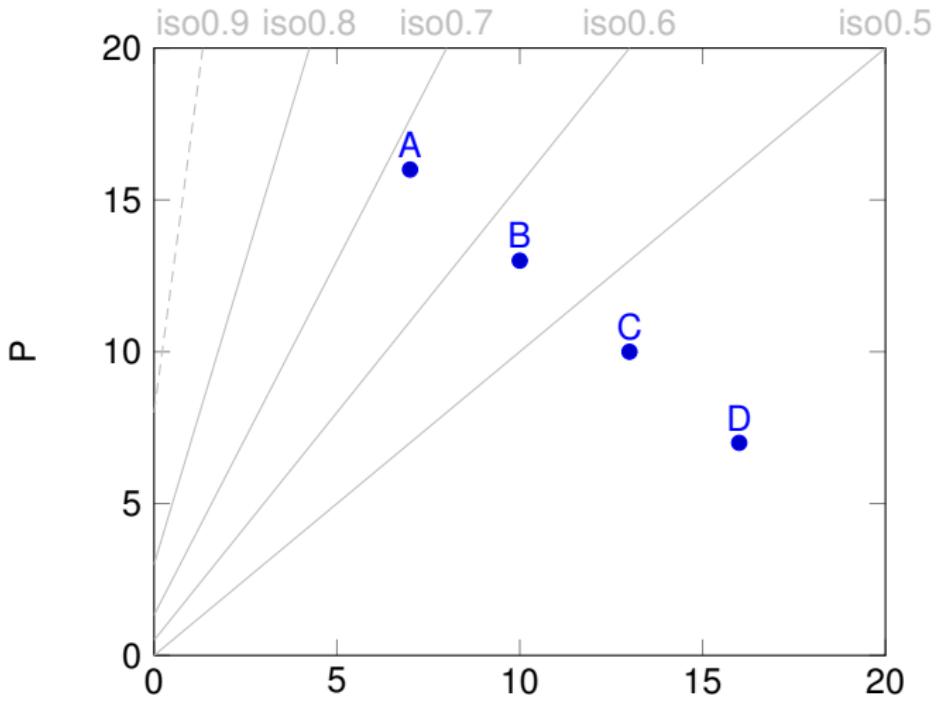
    Prune rules that cannot improve from NewPartialRules

$\forall Rule \in NewPartialRules :$

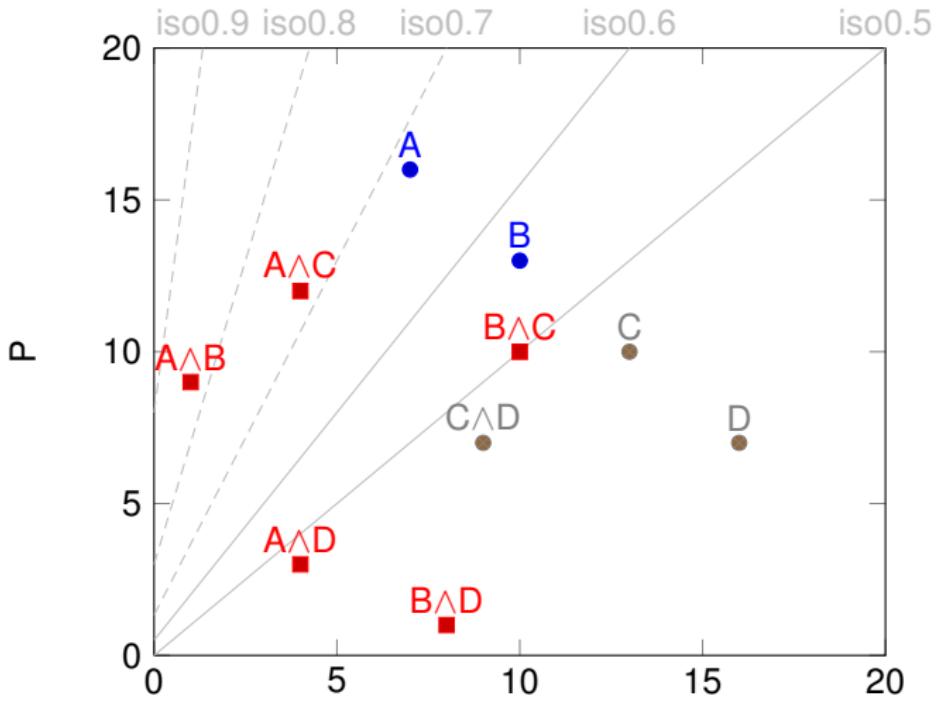
        Rule.ValidValues -= Parent(Rule).InvalidValues

    PartialRules = w best Rules from NewPartialRules (no duplicates)

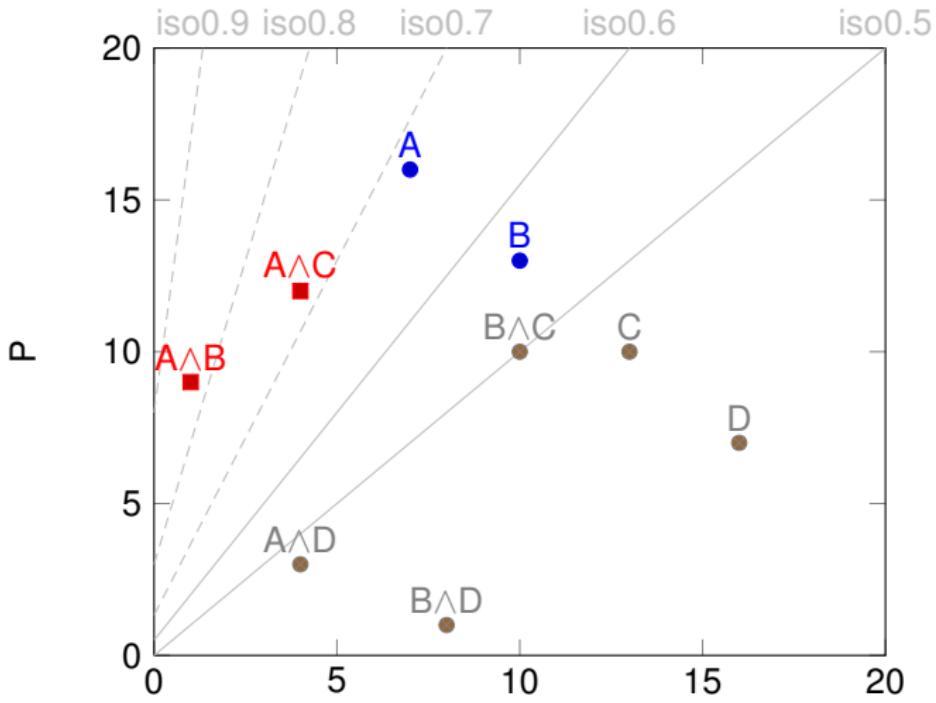
**Return** BestRule



# BeamSearch



# BeamSearch



## Specialise (Rule, s)

**For** each nominal attribute  $A_i$  that does not appear in Rule

**If**  $v_{is} \in \text{Rule.ValidValues}$  ( $v_{is}$  value of  $A_i$  in s) **Then**

    NewRule = Rule  $\wedge$  ( $A_i = v_{is}$ )

**If** NewRule.Score > BestRule.Score **Then**

        BestRule = NewRule

**If** stopSpecialisation

**Then** Parent(NewRule).InvalidValues +=  $v_{is}$

**Else** NewPartialRules += NewRule

# stopSpecialisation

## Pruning conditions 1-3

CoveredPositives(NewRule)  $\leq$  MinPositives

Or

CoveredNegatives(Rule) - CoveredNegatives(NewRule)  $\leq$  MinNegatives

Or

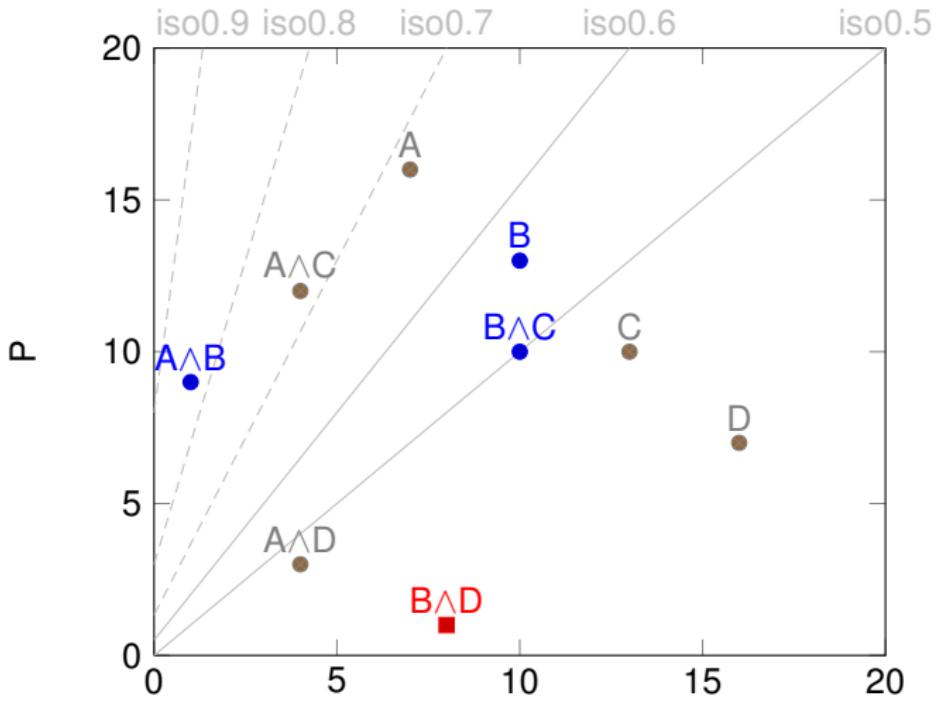
Consistency(NewRule) = 100%

MinPositives and MinNegatives:

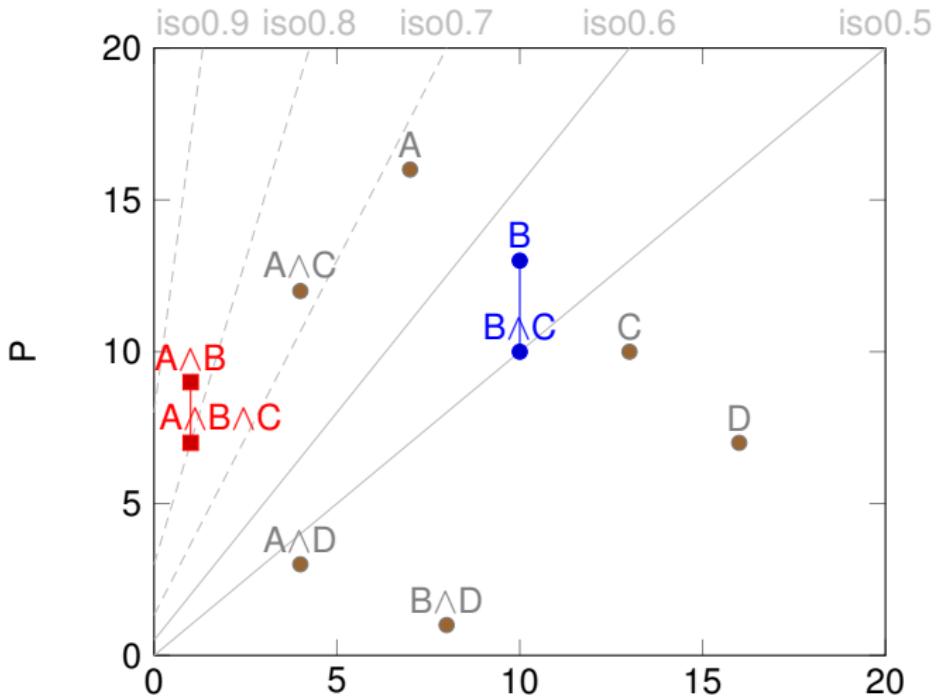
Empirical evidence suggest values between 1 and 5

Smaller values if noise is low

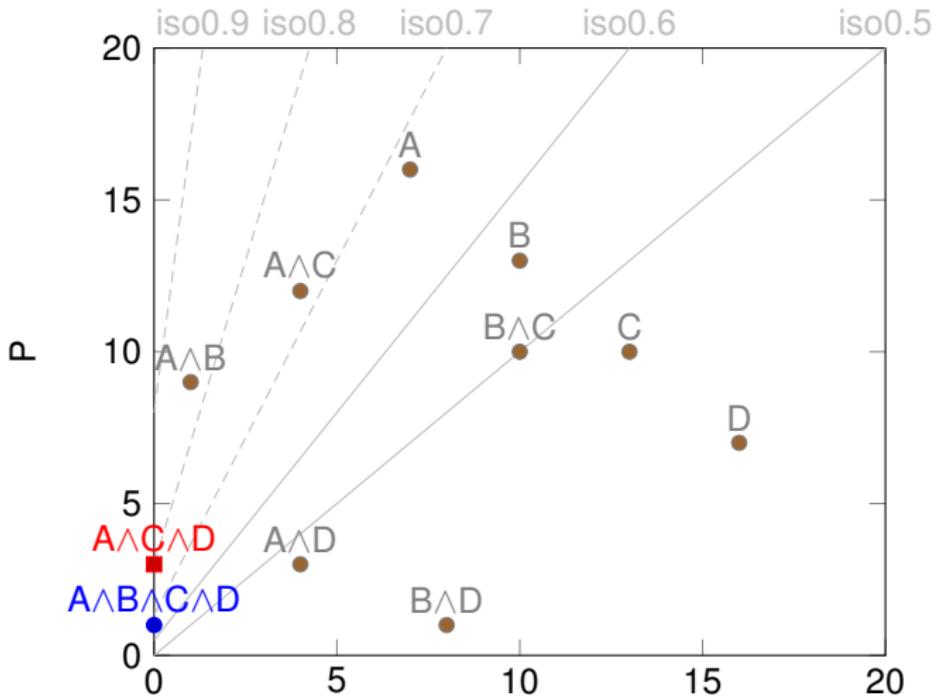
# CovP(NewRule) $\leq$ MinP Pruning 1



# CovN(Rule) - CovN(NewRule) $\leq$ MinN Pruning 2



# Consistency(NewRule) = 100% Pruning 3



# Prune rules that cannot improve

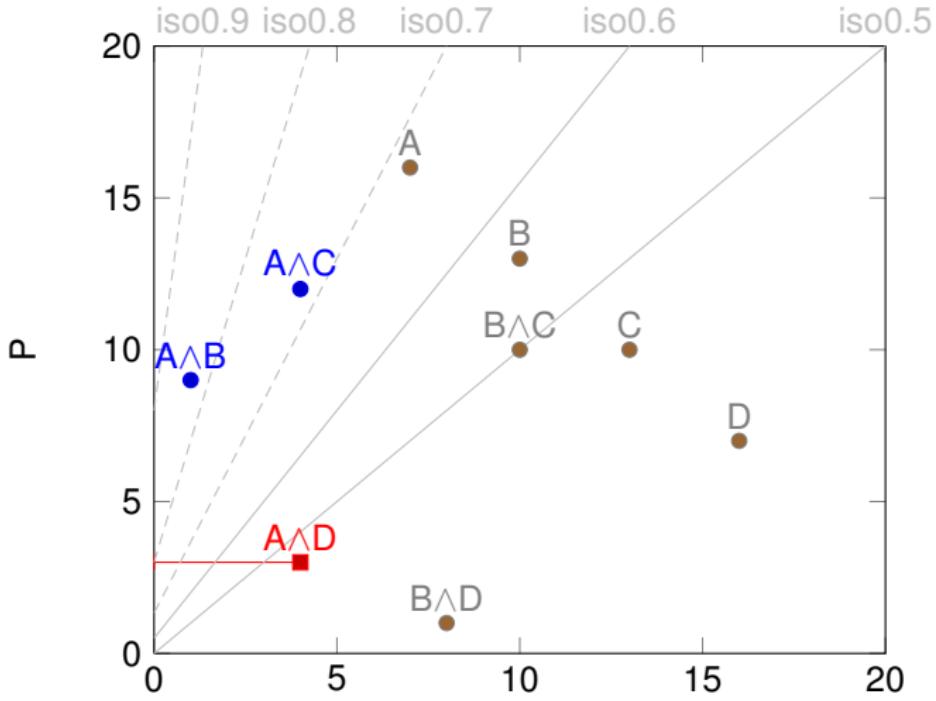
## Pruning 4

```
For each Rule ∈ NewPartialRules
  If Rule.OptimisticScore < BestRule.Score Then
    NewPartialRules -= Rule
    Parent(NewRule).InvalidValues += vis
```

OptimisticScore: Assume CoveredNegatives = 0  
⇒ max score any specialisation of Rule can get

# Prune rules that cannot improve

## Pruning 4



# Rule.Score

## Metric: m-probability-estimate

$$\text{Rule.Score} = \frac{n_{\text{class}} + m P_0(C_t)}{n_{\text{covered}} + m}$$

$n_{\text{class}}$  = | positive examples covered |

$n_{\text{covered}}$  = | total examples covered |

$P_0(C_t)$  = a priori probability of class  $C_t$

$m$  = domain dependant parameter, increase with noise

For  $m = k = |\text{classes}|$  and  $P_0 = \text{uniform} = \frac{1}{k}$

→ Laplace estimate ( $\frac{n_{\text{class}} + 1}{n_{\text{covered}} + k}$ )

In RULES-6:

$$m = k, \quad P_0(C_t) = \frac{N_{C_t}}{N}$$

# Evaluation of the search-space pruning rules

Evaluation on 40 data sets from the University of California at Irvine (UCI) repository of machine learning databases.

Total reduction of search space: 80% (up to 99.4%)

Total increase in accuracy: 8.3%

All four pruning methods can decrease accuracy.

MinNegatives seems to have the highest impact

# Comparison with RULES-3 Plus

- ▶ Number of Rules: -88.5%
- ▶ Number of Conditions: -95.7%
- ▶ Number of Evaluations: -94.8%
- ▶ Execution Time: -97.6%
  
- ▶ Slight increase in accuracy (inc: 25 | dec:11)

# Comparison with C5.0



- ▶ Almost identical performance in accuracy and number of rules
- ▶ Fewer rules in 30 datasets for C5.0

# Evaluation of different descretisation methods



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Afify, A. A. Design and analysis of scalable rule induction systems.  
PhD Thesis, University of Wales Cardiff, School of Engineering,  
Systems Engineering Division, Cardiff, UK, 2004.

“showed that the performance of the RULES-6 algorithm significantly improved when continuous valued attributes were discretized using”

Fayyad, U. M. and Irani, K. B. Multi-interval discretization of continuous-valued attributes for classification.  
In Proceedings of the 13th International Joint Conference on Artificial intelligence, Chambery, France, 1993, pp. 1022-1027.

# Future Work

- ▶ Additional prepruning
- ▶ Use of postpruning
- ▶ Integrated discretization

# Future Work

## RULES-7

Khurram Shehzad

New Rule Induction Algorithm with improved Noise Tolerance and Scalability.

Ph.D. thesis, University of Wales Cardiff. 2010

Khurram Shehzad

EDISC: A Class-Tailored Discretization Technique for Rule-Based Classification

IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering,

vol. 24, no. 8, pp. 1435-1447. 2012

Khurram Shehzad

Simple Hybrid and Incremental Postpruning Techniques for Rule Induction

IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering,

vol. 25, no. 2, pp. 476-480, Feb. 2013

# **Future Work**

## **RULES-8**



Dinh Trung Pham

A Novel Rule Induction Algorithm with Improved Handling of Continuous Valued Attributes

Ph.D. thesis, University of Wales Cardiff. 2012

# Sources

D.T. Pham and A.A. Afify, 2005

RULES-6: A Simple Rule Induction Algorithm for Supporting Decision Making  
Proc. 31st Ann. Conf. IEEE Industrial Electronics Soc. (IECON), pp. 2184-2189

# Questions?

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