# Evolving <br> Receiver Operating Characteristics for Data Fusion 

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## Introduction

- What is Data Fusion?
- What are Receiver Operating Characteristics
- Evolving Classifiers
- Overlapping Gaussians, Thyroid, Landsat, Drug Activity p450
- Conclusions


## The Problem

- There are numerous data mining techniques

Each tries to make sense of data

- Many can be treated as a classification/prediction E.g.:
- Is this credit card purchase fraudulent?
- Will this address buy double glazing?
- Is this a planet?
- Does this molecule block this virus?


## Data Fusion

- Which classifier to use?

Problem specific

- Can we get better results from a "fusion" of classifiers
- Can fusion be automated?
- Exponential explosion of number of ways to combine classifiers
- Use Genetic programming to find a good non-linear combination
- What is fitness of classifier?


## What is Genetic Programming

- GP is randomised parallel search technique for very large search spaces

GA $\ll G P$, since GP explores both structure and coefficients

- Many points are tested
- Search continues from the better ones
- New search points are
- neighbours of better ones
- combinations of better ones
- Based on analogy with natural evolution, "Survival of the fittest"


The Genetic Programming Cycle, from GP \& Data Structures

## Receiver Operating Characteristics

- Classifiers seldom deal with certainty
- Is this person's Thyroid OK?
- Low sensitivity, every time classifier says no
- Increase sensitivity, more yes
- Very high sensitivity, every time says yes
- ROC shows tradeoff between missing positive cases and raising false alarms


## ROC of Linear Classifier on Thyroid Data



## "Best" ROC = Convex Hull

- Best classifier has ROC near $(0,1)$ (top left corner)
- Area under ROC, 0.5 (random), 1 (perfect)
"Better" classifier has bigger area
- Like 0,0 to 1,1 diagonal, ROC of random combination of classifiers lies between them Therefore only external points are useful Scott [BMVC'98]'s "Maximum Realisable ROC", MRROC. MRROC = convex hull
- Fitness $=$ area under convex hull of ROC


## Convex Hull of Receiver Operating Characteristics



## GP to Evolve Classifiers

- Function set: traditional + classifiers

All classifiers unary functions, current test case + threshold return classification of test case and "confidence"

- Terminal set: traditional + threshold
- 5 Trees: sum value returned by each tree (i.e. weighted vote)

Wrapper: sum $<0 \Rightarrow$ negative class

- Fitness: Run on test set for threshold 0, 0.1, $0.2 \ldots 1.0$

Calculate true positive and false positive rate for each threshold Fitness $=$ area under convex hull of 13 points (also 0,0 and 1,1 )

- Population 500. 50 generations


## Evolved Classifier

## Answer $=$ Sum of five GP trees



## GP Parameters

| Objective: | Evolve a function with Maximum Convex Hull Area |
| :--- | :--- |
| Function set: | INT FRAC Max Min MaxA MinA MUL ADD DIV |
|  | SUB IFLTE LC |

## Simple Example



Positive

Negative

Data points above horizontal line are in the class

## Combined Classifier better than Convex Hull



## Sensitivity makes $X$ rectangle grow or shrink




## Sensitivity makes Y "Iozenge" grow or shrink




## Receiver Operating Characteristics of $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}$ and Evolved Combination



## Decision Boundary of Evolved Classifier



## Overlapping Gaussians



## Receiver Operating Characteristics of

Linear Classifier on Overlapping Gaussians


## Convex Hull of ROC on Overlapping Gaussians



Note random combination of classifiers 4.0 and 8.0 is better than classifier with threshold 6.0

## ROC of Evolved Classifier on <br> Overlapping Gaussians



## Output at Threshold 0.3 of Evolved Classifier on <br> Overlapping Gaussians



## Thyroid

- Second of Scott's [BMVC,1998] bench marks
- Real data
- Linear classifiers on two attributes (15 binary 6 continuous)
- ROC of evolved combination better than either
- GP forms non-linear combinations


## Thyroid Receiver Operating Characteristics



## Thyroid Evolved Classifier (Threshold 0.5)



## Landsat (Naive Bayes)

- Last of Scott's Bench marks
- Binary classification of soil type from 4 wave band Landsat data
- Best of Scott's classifiers given to GP


## Landsat, Nine Pixels $\times 4$ Bands



Each record contains data from nine adjacent Landsat pixels nb16, nb16,23 nb16,23,24 nb23,24 and nb8,23,24 together use four attributes

Three $(8,16,24)$ use spectral band 0 and the other (23) uses band 3

## Landsat Receiver Operating Characteristics


(Note X and Y -Ranges)

## Landsat, Nine Pixels $\times 4$ Bands (3 used)



Each record contains data from nine adjacent Landsat pixels
Two near infrared, two visible bands
Naive Bayes trained on Band 0
C4.5 Trained on Band 1
Artificial Neural Network trained on Band 3 (Band 2 poor)

## Landsat (Naive Bayes, C4.5, Neural Network)

- Landsat data but 3 radically different classifiers
- 21 Naive Bayes classifiers trained on Band 0

All single attributes (9)
All pairs of best 6 attributes (15)

- C4.5 trained only on band 1
- ANN trained only on band 3
- All 7 combinations of single band, pairs and triple combinations
- In all 7 cases GP higher ROC area than best input classifier


## Landsat 3 Classifiers

## Receiver Operating Characteristics



## Drug Activity GlaxoSmithKline p450 Data

- 1500 compounds, 300 positive 1200 negative

Especially noisy data discarded. "Similar" compounds removed

- 699 attributes

GSK problem knowledge used to calculate attributes from primary molecular structure

Ten types of attribute. 3 small group together, biggest 2 split $\Rightarrow 15$ attribute groups

- 4 balanced training sets (same 300 pos, 300 different inactives)
- One Clementine neural network trained on each group of attributes and each training set
$15 \times 4=60$ neural networks


## "Blind Trial" p450 Data

- Only neural networks and classification No access to private data (699 attributes)
- GlaxoSmithKline keeping 1500 different records for validation
- 1500 randomly split 2:1 training:verification
- Training set used by GP


## p450 ROC Area ANN and GP



GP marginally better (significant?) best of neural networks
GP over fitting?

## p450 ROC ANN and GP



## When Will GP-ROC Work?

- We may hope for improvement when
- Have both aggressive (say positive when can) and conservative (only when sure) classifiers
- Classifiers which are good at different parts of the feature space
- Small number of significant features interacting in a complicated way
- Future work
- Complete p450 experiments
- Evolve (and combine) specialist classifiers
- Boosting?


## Conclusions

- Scott's "Maximum Realisable ROC" not always the best
- GP has done better on Scott's benchmarks and real problems
- We can automatically get better results from a "fusion" of classifiers. Demonstrated on:

Same classifier (overlapping Gaussians)
Classifiers of same type (Thyroid)
Classifiers of different types, trained on different data (Landsat)

- GP-ROC technique not specific to a domain
- Size fair crossover and mutation effective against bloat


## Evolution of Size



