

Using Quick Decision Tree Algorithm to Find Better RBF Networks*

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Abstract. It is known that generated knowledge models for data mining tasks are dependent upon supplied data sets, so supplying good data sets for target data mining algorithms is important for the success of data mining. Therefore, in order to find better RBF networks of k-means clustering efficiently, we refer to the number of errors that are from decision trees, and use the information to improve training data sets for RBF networks and we also refer to terminal nodes to initialize the k value. Experiments with real world data sets showed good results.

Keywords: decision tree, radial basis function network, classification, large database.

1 Introduction

In the field of data mining tasks there are two challenges that may hinder success for the tasks. The first challenge is the fact that there can be a lot of data that can cause computational complexity problem, and the second challenge is the fact that data may not be complete for target data mining models so that the trained knowledge model might act poorly for future unseen cases. There are many data mining algorithms to deal with the problem [1], and decision trees and artificial neural networks are some of representative algorithms for the problem. In order to cope with the first problem decision trees can be used, since they are especially good for handling large data sets because of relatively shorter training time. On the other hand, for incomplete or imperfect data problem artificial neural networks can be used, since they are known to be good for the problem with increased computational complexity.

For tasks of data mining artificial neural networks like MLPs and radial basis function (RBF) networks are mostly used because of their good performance in many applications [2, 3, 4]. We are especially interested in RBF networks, because the neural networks have been applied successfully for classification tasks of data mining [5]. RBF networks make approximation based on the training data, and Gaussian functions are used mostly as the radial basis function. In order to train RBF networks first we should find appropriate centre and radius of radial basis function. For this

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task, we may use some unsupervised learning algorithms like k-means clustering. K-means clustering is one of the mostly used algorithms for clustering [6]. For k-means clustering an appropriate number of clusters has to be given for initialization. For this initialization we usually use domain knowledge to set the number of clusters. So, the task of setting the number of clusters is arbitrary in nature, so is true for the task of initializing the number of clusters of RBF networks. But the RBF networks have different performance depending on the number of clusters and training data sets, so we want to find better RBF networks exploiting decision trees that can be trained more quickly than RBF networks.

In section 2, we provide related work to the research, and in sections 3 we present the procedure. Experiments were run to see the effect of the method in section 4. Finally section 5 presents some conclusions and future work.

2 Related Work

Because it is easy for us to understand the structure of decision trees unless they are not very large, decision trees have been used often as a knowledge model for the task of data mining. Research efforts have been devoted to build better decision trees. Among them C4.5 is some representative decision tree algorithm, because it has been referred often in literature and freely available [7]. C4.5 uses entropy-based measure and generates decision trees in relatively quick time, but the generated tree size is relatively big.

When available data set size is relatively small, artificial neural networks are regarded as good data mining tools [8]. Among many artificial neural networks MLPs and RBF networks are some representative neural networks that have been often referred in literature [9]. A good point of neural networks is robustness to irrelevant features as well as erroneous data. RBF networks are one of the most popular feed-forward networks [10]. Even though RBF networks have three layers including the input layer, hidden layer, and output layer, they differ from MLPs, because the hidden units of RBF networks are constructed based on some clustering algorithms mostly.

There were some efforts to use decision trees to build better RBF networks. Kubat [11] tried to utilize the information of terminal nodes of C4.5 in building RBF networks. The terminal nodes were used as center points for clustering for RBF network. He showed that the RBF networks have better accuracy than decision trees of C4.5 in some data sets. Schwenker et al. also showed that decision trees can be used to initialize three kinds of RBF networks deterministically [12]. But, because the task of generating an optimal decision tree is NP-complete problem, the data space divided by decision tree is one of many possible ways to divide data space, so it is not easy to mention that the RBF networks are optimal.

Because training task of data mining models like neural networks is induction, the behavior of trained data mining models is dependent on the training data set. So, we can infer that the trained knowledge model will be dependent on sample size as well as the composition of data in the samples. Fukunaga and Hayes [13] discussed the effect of sample size for parameter estimates in a family of functions for classifiers. SMOTE method [14] used synthetic data generation method for minor classes, and showed that it is effective for decision trees. In [15] the authors showed that

class imbalance has different effect in neural networks for medical domain data. In previous work [16] experiments with smaller sample sizes from original data sets were tried, and it showed good results. So in this paper we want to expand the work with modified method in biased sampling to cope with class imbalance for larger data sets.

3 The Method

Most target data sets for data mining have some skewed distribution in class values, and this fact can be checked easily by inspecting the terminal nodes of decision trees. Moreover, we may also use the information of the number of terminal nodes in the trees as the initial number of clusters for k-means clustering of RBF networks. If the generated tree is very large, the task of interpreting the structure of generated tree is difficult. So, we want to use the information of the number of terminal nodes of decision trees only to find better RBF networks. The method first builds a decision tree using some fast decision tree generation algorithms like C4.5. Then, we inspect the number of misclassified objects for each class. Then we choose classes that should be sampled more for more balanced training set of samples with respect to class value distribution in the samples.

We use the number of terminal nodes in the decision trees to determine the initial number of clusters for the RBF network. But the initial value for the number of clusters in RBF network might not be the best value for the given data set. So we first try to decrease the number of clusters from the initial value in arithmetical progression, then we also increase the number of clusters from the initial value. But increasing or decreasing the number of clusters sequentially and generating corresponding RBF networks may take a lot of computing time without much improvement in accuracy, so we increment or decrement the number as some multiple of the initial number of clusters. If the accuracy values of RBF networks do not increase within given criteria, the search stops. The following is a brief description of the procedure of the method.

procedure (Output)

- ```

/* X, K, D, σ : parameters */
1. Generate a decision tree;
2. Inspect the terminal nodes of the decision tree to
 determine further sampling for inferior classes
 and count the number of terminal nodes;
3. Do sampling of X % more for inferior classes
4. Initialize the number of clusters of RBFN as C where
 C is the largest number that is less than the number
 of terminal nodes and the multiple of the number of
 classes;
5. Generate a RBFN /* initial_accuracy = the accuracy
 of the network */
6. loop_better_accuracy := initial_accuracy;
 global_better_accuracy := initial_accuracy;

```

```

/* check decreasingly */
7. Repeat K times
7.1 Generate a RBFN after decreasing the number
 of clusters by D;
7.2 If the accuracy of RBFN > loop_better_accuracy Then
 loop_better_accuracy := the accuracy of RBFN;
 End if;
8. End repeat
9. If loop_better_accuracy > global_better_accuracy
 Then
 K := K - σ ;
 global_better_accuracy:=loop_better_accuracy;
 Go to 7;
 End If;
/* check increasingly */
10. loop_better_accuracy := global_better_accuracy;
11. Repeat K times
11.1 Generate a RBFN after increasing the number of
 clusters by D;
11.2 If the accuracy of RBFN > loop_better_accuracy
 Then
 loop_better_accuracy := the accuracy of RBFN;
 End if;
12. End repeat
13. If loop_better_accuracy > global_better_accuracy
 Then
 K := K + σ ;
 global_better_accuracy:=loop_better_accuracy;
 Go to 11;
 End If;
End.

```

In the above procedure there are four parameters to be defined,  $X$ ,  $K$ ,  $D$ , and  $\sigma$ .  $X$  represents additional percentage to do more sampling.  $K$  represents the number of repeats in generating RBF networks while we increase or decrease the number of clusters by  $D$ . Depending on the number of terminal nodes of the decision tree, we set the value of  $D$  and  $K$  appropriately.  $\sigma$  is for the adjustment of  $K$  value for the next round of the loop. In the following experiment  $X$  is set to 20%,  $K$  is set to five, and  $\sigma$  is set to two, and  $D$  is set depending on how many classes we have and how many terminal nodes exist in the generated decision tree. One may give smaller value of  $D$ , if he wants more thorough search. Increasing or decreasing the number of clusters will be stopped, when the accuracies of the generated RBF networks are not improved further. We decrease the number of clusters from starting point first, because training time of RBF networks for smaller number of clusters takes less time.

## 4 Experimentation

Experiments were run using data sets in UCI machine learning repository [17] called 'adult' [18] and 'statlog(Landsat satellite)' [19] to see the effect of the method. The number of instances in adult data set is 48,842, and the number of instances in statlog data set is 6,435. The data sets were selected, because they are relatively large, and adult data set may represent business domain and statlog data set may represent scientific domain. The total number of attributes is 14 and 36, and there are two classes and six classes for adult and statlog data set respectively. There are six continuous attributes for adult data set, and all attributes are continuous attributes for statlog data set. We used RBF network using K-means clustering [20] to train for various number of clusters. Because most applications of RBF network use relatively small-sized data sets, we did sampling of relatively small sizes for the experiment to simulate the situation. For adult data set sample size of 960 and 1,920 are used, and for statlog data set sample size of 480 and 960 are used. All the remaining data are used for testing. For each sample size seven random sample data sets were drawn. Used decision tree algorithm is C4.5 and default pruning parameter of 25% is used.

Before we sample in the above mentioned sample sizes, we sampled the sample size of 800 and 1,600 for adult data set, and the sample size of 400 and 800 for statlog data set to determine which class objects should be sampled more. Table 1 and table 2 shows average misclassification ratio of fourteen random sample sets for each class when we generate decision trees of C4.5. All sample data are used to generate the trees.

**Table 1.** Average misclassification ratio for each class of adult data set samples

| Class | Misclassification ratio |
|-------|-------------------------|
| >50K  | 35.5%                   |
| ≤50K  | 4.7%                    |

**Table 2.** Average misclassification ratio for each class of statlog data set samples

| Class | Average misclassification ratio |
|-------|---------------------------------|
| 1     | 1.2%                            |
| 2     | 1.9%                            |
| 3     | 1.6%                            |
| 4     | 14.1%                           |
| 5     | 8.1%                            |
| 6     | 3.2%                            |

So, 20% more objects were sampled from the object pool of '>50K' class for adult data set, and 10% more objects were sampled for each class 4 and 5 for statlog data set. The following table 3 to 10 show accuracies RBF networks depending on the number of clusters for adult and statlog data set. In the tables, the first row contains results of decision tree C4.5, and in the second row '#cls' means the number of clusters, and 'Acc.' means accuracy in percentage. '\*' in the body of the table

**Table 3.** Results of adult data set with sample size of 960

| Sample 1:<br>Accuracy: 81.9761<br># terminal nodes:<br>17 |                | Sample 2:<br>Accuracy: 81.8153<br># terminal nodes:<br>72 |               | Sample 3:<br>Accuracy: 84.0897<br># terminal nodes:<br>40 |                | Sample 4:<br>Accuracy: 80.4662<br># terminal nodes:<br>89 |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.          | #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           |
|                                                           |                | 32                                                        | 82.2038       |                                                           |                | 24                                                        | 82.1435        |
|                                                           |                | 40                                                        | 82.3583       | 8                                                         | 82.6904        | 32                                                        | 81.9699        |
| 4                                                         | <b>83.4506</b> | 48                                                        | 82.2122       | 16                                                        | 82.9933        | 40                                                        | 81.7903        |
| 8                                                         | 82.4168        | 56                                                        | 82.0576       | 24                                                        | <b>83.0016</b> | 48                                                        | <b>82.4085</b> |
| 12                                                        | 81.8989        | 64                                                        | 82.2205       | 32                                                        | 82.5296        | 56                                                        | 81.8341        |
| *16                                                       | 82.3542        | *72                                                       | 82.4962       | *40                                                       | 82.8262        | 64                                                        | 81.5209        |
| 20                                                        | 82.0555        | 80                                                        | <b>82.776</b> | 48                                                        | 82.3918        | 72                                                        | 81.8049        |
| 24                                                        | 82.6211        | 88                                                        | 81.7986       | 56                                                        | 82.4001        | 80                                                        | 81.6921        |
| 28                                                        | 81.5605        | 96                                                        | 81.1115       | 64                                                        | 82.3792        | *88                                                       | 81.3392        |
| 32                                                        | 82.1474        | 104                                                       | 80.2098       | 72                                                        | 81.8884        | 96                                                        | 81.1303        |
| 36                                                        |                | 112                                                       | 81.2577       | 80                                                        | 82.0242        | 104                                                       | 81.3266        |
|                                                           |                | 120                                                       | 80.9444       |                                                           |                | 112                                                       | 81.9761        |
|                                                           |                | 128                                                       | 80.5393       |                                                           |                | 120                                                       | 82.0346        |
|                                                           |                | 136                                                       |               |                                                           |                | 128                                                       | 81.9072        |

**Table 4.** Results of adult data set with sample size of 960 (cont.)

| Sample 5:<br>Accuracy: 83.3693<br># terminal nodes:<br>30 |                | Sample 6:<br>Accuracy: 79.8793<br># terminal nodes:<br>51 |                | Sample 7:<br>Accuracy: 82.7677<br># terminal nodes:<br>67 |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           |
|                                                           |                | 10                                                        | 82.6319        | 26                                                        | <b>82.9431</b> |
|                                                           |                | 18                                                        | <b>83.2209</b> | 34                                                        | 82.586         |
| 6                                                         | 83.6678        | 26                                                        | 83.1019        | 42                                                        | 81.5041        |
| 14                                                        | <b>83.7033</b> | 34                                                        | 83.0413        | 50                                                        | 81.4958        |
| 22                                                        | 83.6762        | 42                                                        | 83.1541        | 58                                                        | 81.7151        |
| *30                                                       | 83.5091        | *50                                                       | 82.9619        | *66                                                       | 80.863         |
| 38                                                        | 83.2564        | 58                                                        | 82.4001        | 74                                                        | 81.0656        |
| 46                                                        | 83.342         | 66                                                        | 82.2644        | 82                                                        | 80.4181        |
| 54                                                        | 83.3274        | 74                                                        | 81.6169        | 90                                                        | 80.0735        |
| 62                                                        | 83.035         | 82                                                        | 82.1913        | 98                                                        | 80.0798        |
| 70                                                        |                | 90                                                        | 81.5376        | 106                                                       | 80.0338        |

indicates the initial number of clusters. The number is based on the number of terminal nodes in the corresponding decision tree of C4.5. The best accuracy value in the experiment for each sample set is represented in bold numbers. Table 3 and 4 show the result of experiment for adult data set with sample size of 960.

If we give attention to sample 3 in table 3, the accuracy of RBF network is worse than the accuracy of decision tree of C4.5. But RBF networks for other sample sizes are better than C4.5, so we can say that better RBF networks can be found because of the repeated trials with different number of clusters. Table 5 and 6 show the result of experiment for adult data set with sample size of 1,920.

**Table 5.** Results of adult data set with sample size of 1920

| Sample 1:<br>Accuracy: 82.2915<br># terminal nodes:<br>68 |                | Sample 2:<br>Accuracy: 82.6453<br># terminal nodes:<br>94 |                | Sample 3:<br>Accuracy: 81.317<br># terminal nodes:<br>102 |                | Sample 4:<br>Accuracy: 82.5387<br># terminal nodes:<br>98 |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.          |
| 4                                                         | <b>83.8388</b> | 2                                                         | <b>83.6214</b> | 6                                                         | <b>84.4717</b> | 2                                                         | <b>83.615</b> |
| 12                                                        | 83.7791        | 10                                                        | 83.4275        | 18                                                        | 82.7565        | 14                                                        | 82.8478       |
| 20                                                        | 83.4253        | 22                                                        | 83.1781        | 30                                                        | 83.1087        | 26                                                        | 82.8648       |
| 28                                                        | 82.8158        | 34                                                        | 82.9607        | 42                                                        | 82.925         | 38                                                        | 82.7476       |
| 36                                                        | 82.6794        | 46                                                        | 83.2378        | 54                                                        | 82.4186        | 50                                                        | 82.6389       |
| 44                                                        | 81.959         | 58                                                        | 82.6645        | 66                                                        | 83.4303        | 62                                                        | 82.9714       |
| 52                                                        | 81.9526        | 70                                                        | 83.3783        | 78                                                        | 83.0475        | 74                                                        | 82.7732       |
| 60                                                        | 81.9974        | 82                                                        | 82.7028        | 90                                                        | 82.4962        | 86                                                        | 82.5281       |
| *68                                                       | 81.9313        | *94                                                       | 82.7881        | *102                                                      | 82.7412        | *98                                                       | 82.5941       |
| 76                                                        | 82.2894        | 106                                                       | 82.7966        | 114                                                       | 82.2511        | 110                                                       | 82.6219       |
| 84                                                        | 82.1849        | 118                                                       | 82.0933        | 126                                                       | 82.5727        | 122                                                       | 82.7476       |
| 92                                                        | 82.0123        | 130                                                       | 82.2809        | 138                                                       | 83.124         | 134                                                       | 82.4577       |
| 100                                                       | 81.5307        | 142                                                       | 82.1892        | 150                                                       | 83.0781        | 146                                                       | 82.4663       |
| 104                                                       | 81.1747        | 154                                                       | 82.6943        | 162                                                       | 82.7259        | 158                                                       | 82.1849       |

**Table 6.** Results of adult data set with sample size of 1920 (cont.)

| Sample 5:<br>Accuracy: 82.2915<br># terminal nodes:<br>68 |               | Sample 6:<br>Accuracy: 82.6453<br># terminal nodes: 94 |               | Sample 7:<br>Accuracy: 81.317<br># terminal nodes:<br>102 |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| #cls                                                      | Acc.          | #cls                                                   | Acc.          | #cls                                                      | Acc.           |
| 6                                                         | <b>83.875</b> |                                                        |               |                                                           |                |
| 14                                                        | 83.3337       | 4                                                      | <b>83.777</b> | 28                                                        | <b>82.7854</b> |
| 22                                                        | 82.9884       | 16                                                     | 82.8542       | 44                                                        | 82.6952        |
| 30                                                        | 83.5042       | 28                                                     | 82.2318       | 60                                                        | 82.4247        |
| 38                                                        | 82.9948       | 40                                                     | 82.6751       | 76                                                        | 82.8094        |
| 46                                                        | 83.1419       | 52                                                     | 81.633        | 92                                                        | 82.4307        |
| 54                                                        | 83.3998       | 64                                                     | 82.7646       | 108                                                       | 81.8898        |
| 62                                                        | 82.9479       | 76                                                     | 81.9761       | 124                                                       | 82.016         |
| 70                                                        | 82.786        | 88                                                     | 81.9079       | 140                                                       | 81.3007        |
| *78                                                       | 83.2783       | *100                                                   | 81.7203       | *156                                                      | 80.8019        |
| 86                                                        | 83.4253       | 112                                                    | 81.3666       | 114                                                       | 81.1625        |
| 94                                                        | 83.1078       | 124                                                    | 82.0699       | 126                                                       | 80.8499        |
| 102                                                       | 82.445        | 136                                                    | 81.9036       | 138                                                       | 80.5854        |
| 108                                                       | 83.0588       | 148                                                    | 82.04         | 150                                                       | 80.4532        |
| 116                                                       | 82.9224       | 160                                                    | 81.9548       | 162                                                       | 80.8059        |

If we look at table 5 and table 6, we can notice that the best accuracies have been found in smaller number of clusters than the number of terminal nodes of C4.5. From the results of the both sample sizes for adult data set, we can find the fact that more accurate RBF networks could be found with relatively small number of clusters.

The following table 7 to table 10 show results of experiment for statlog data set. Table 7 and 8 show the result of experiment for statlog data set with sample size of 480.

**Table 7.** Results of statlog data set with sample size of 480

| Sample 1:<br>Accuracy: 78.623<br># terminal nodes:<br>35 |                | Sample 2:<br>Accuracy: 80.1175<br># terminal nodes:<br>31 |                | Sample 3:<br>Accuracy: 80.084<br># terminal nodes:<br>36 |                | Sample 4:<br>Accuracy: 79.3115<br># terminal nodes:<br>36 |                |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| #cls                                                     | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                     | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           |
|                                                          |                |                                                           |                | 6                                                        | 79.3451        | 6                                                         | 78.22          |
| 6                                                        | 79.513         | 6                                                         | 78.6566        | 12                                                       | 84.0134        | 12                                                        | 82.0991        |
| 12                                                       | 82.0823        | 12                                                        | 83.7615        | 18                                                       | 84.5844        | 18                                                        | 83.4761        |
| 18                                                       | 83.6272        | 18                                                        | 84.534         | 24                                                       | <b>84.6348</b> | 24                                                        | 83.6776        |
| 24                                                       | 84.6683        | 24                                                        | <b>84.9034</b> | 30                                                       | 83.9798        | 30                                                        | 84.0134        |
| *30                                                      | 83.8455        | *30                                                       | 84.3493        | *36                                                      | 83.6608        | *36                                                       | 83.8959        |
| 36                                                       | 84.2653        | 36                                                        | 83.7783        | 42                                                       | 82.2334        | 42                                                        | 83.2914        |
| 42                                                       | 83.9295        | 42                                                        | 84.2989        | 48                                                       | 83.0227        | 48                                                        | 83.5264        |
| 48                                                       | <b>84.6851</b> | 48                                                        | 83.2317        | 54                                                       | 84.0638        | 54                                                        | 84.2149        |
| 54                                                       | 84.534         | 54                                                        | 80.5542        | 60                                                       | 83.5097        | 60                                                        | <b>84.4668</b> |
| 60                                                       | 83.5936        | 60                                                        | 80.7389        | 66                                                       | 84.0974        | 66                                                        | 83.7615        |
| 66                                                       | 83.3249        |                                                           |                | 72                                                       | 83.9463        | 72                                                        | 84.1814        |
| 72                                                       | 83.2914        |                                                           |                | 78                                                       | 82.4685        | 78                                                        | 83.1906        |
| 78                                                       | 82.1998        |                                                           |                | 84                                                       | 81.7128        | 84                                                        | 83.1234        |

**Table 8.** Results of statlog data set with sample size of 480 (cont.)

| Sample 5:<br>Accuracy: 77.5819<br># terminal nodes:<br>34 |                | Sample 6:<br>Accuracy: 80.1679<br># terminal nodes:<br>36 |                | Sample 7:<br>Accuracy: 78.4587<br># terminal nodes:<br>42 |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           |
|                                                           |                | 6                                                         | 78.6566        | 12                                                        | 82.3707        |
| 6                                                         | 78.2872        | 12                                                        | 82.8212        | 18                                                        | 82.7233        |
| 12                                                        | 82.1998        | 18                                                        | 84.6348        | 24                                                        | 83.2774        |
| 18                                                        | 83.2242        | 24                                                        | 85.6591        | 30                                                        | 82.6058        |
| 24                                                        | <b>83.7615</b> | 30                                                        | 85.3568        | 36                                                        | 83.546         |
| *30                                                       | 83.5936        | *36                                                       | <b>86.2972</b> | *42                                                       | 83.865         |
| 36                                                        | 83.0563        | 42                                                        | 85.7935        | 48                                                        | 82.6897        |
| 42                                                        | 82.6868        | 48                                                        | 85.8774        | 54                                                        | 83.546         |
| 48                                                        | 83.0898        | 54                                                        | 84.9874        | 60                                                        | 83.9154        |
| 54                                                        | 83.0898        | 60                                                        | 84.8027        | 66                                                        | 79.7179        |
| 60                                                        | 82.9891        | 66                                                        | 84.5844        | 72                                                        | <b>84.1336</b> |
|                                                           |                |                                                           |                | 78                                                        | 83.5628        |
|                                                           |                |                                                           |                | 84                                                        | 82.9248        |
|                                                           |                |                                                           |                | 90                                                        | 81.4641        |

If we give attention to sample set 2, 4, and 6 of sample size 480, the accuracy of RBF network with six clusters is worse than the accuracy of decision tree of C4.5. But we can avoid choosing this RBF network because of the repeated trials with different number of clusters. Table 9 and 10 show the result of experiment for statlog data set with sample size of 960.



**Table 9.** Results of statlog data set with sample size of 960

| Sample 1:<br>Accuracy: 81.9543<br># terminal nodes:<br>79 |                | Sample 2:<br>Accuracy: 81.1872<br># terminal nodes:<br>63 |                | Sample 3:<br>Accuracy: 81.9316<br># terminal nodes:<br>76 |                | Sample 4:<br>Accuracy: 80.8584<br># terminal nodes:<br>69 |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           |
| 6                                                         | 79.2511        |                                                           |                |                                                           |                |                                                           |                |
| 18                                                        | 84.0731        | 6                                                         | 79.9269        | 12                                                        | 79.5251        | 6                                                         | 79.0685        |
| 30                                                        | 84.7854        | 12                                                        | 82.9589        | 24                                                        | <b>85.4064</b> | 18                                                        | 85.6073        |
| 42                                                        | 85.6986        | 24                                                        | <b>86.6849</b> | 36                                                        | 84.2374        | 30                                                        | 85.589         |
| 54                                                        | <b>86.8128</b> | 36                                                        | 85.1142        | 48                                                        | 84.1096        | 42                                                        | <b>86.3379</b> |
| 66                                                        | 86.3379        | 48                                                        | 85.4429        | 60                                                        | 84.347         | 54                                                        | 85.2968        |
| *78                                                       | 86.3014        | *60                                                       | 85.5525        | *72                                                       | 84.1826        | *66                                                       | 84.9315        |
| 90                                                        | 85.2237        | 72                                                        | 85.7149        | 84                                                        | 82.9589        | 78                                                        | 84.6027        |
| 102                                                       | 86.6119        | 84                                                        | 86.0091        | 96                                                        | 83.7626        | 90                                                        | 83.5982        |
| 114                                                       | 85.6986        | 96                                                        | 86.3927        | 108                                                       | 82.6119        | 102                                                       | 82.9406        |
| 126                                                       | 86.3014        | 108                                                       | 83.3151        | 120                                                       | 84.3105        | 114                                                       | 79.8904        |
| 138                                                       | 86.5205        | 120                                                       | 84.4018        | 132                                                       | 83.8539        | 126                                                       | 81.4429        |

**Table 10.** Results of statlog data set with sample size of 960 (cont.)

| Sample 5:<br>Accuracy: 81.4098<br># terminal nodes:<br>71 |                | Sample 6:<br>Accuracy: 80.2557<br># terminal nodes: 69 |                | Sample 7:<br>Accuracy: 82.3014<br># terminal nodes:<br>76 |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| #cls                                                      | Acc.           | #cls                                                   | Acc.           | #cls                                                      | Acc.           |
| 6                                                         | 79.5654        | 6                                                      | 79.0137        | 12                                                        | 83.0502        |
| 18                                                        | 84.2586        | 18                                                     | <b>86.1005</b> | 24                                                        | <b>86.1005</b> |
| 30                                                        | 86.176         | 30                                                     | 85.3151        | 36                                                        | 85.6256        |
| 42                                                        | 85.1717        | 42                                                     | 85.1142        | 48                                                        | 85.2603        |
| 54                                                        | 85.7378        | 54                                                     | 83.9087        | 60                                                        | 85.1142        |
| *66                                                       | 84.7699        | *66                                                    | 85.7717        | *72                                                       | 84.9315        |
| 78                                                        | <b>86.6508</b> | 78                                                     | 85.8265        | 84                                                        | 85.8265        |
| 90                                                        | 86.3769        | 90                                                     | 85.1142        | 96                                                        | 84.895         |
| 102                                                       | 85.9021        | 102                                                    | 85.9726        | 108                                                       | 84.6758        |
| 114                                                       | 85.4456        | 114                                                    | 85.7169        | 120                                                       | 84.968         |
| 126                                                       | 82.9255        | 126                                                    | 85.5525        | 132                                                       | 84.3836        |
| 138                                                       | 83.9664        |                                                        |                |                                                           |                |
| 150                                                       | 80.558         |                                                        |                |                                                           |                |
| 162                                                       | 80.9898        |                                                        |                |                                                           |                |

If we look at table 9 and table 10, we can notice that the best accuracies have been found in smaller number of clusters than the number of terminal nodes of C4.5. But there is no such regularity for sample size of 480. Anyway, we can find better RBF networks with the algorithm.

## 5 Conclusions and Future Works

Decision tree algorithms have good property that makes it easy to cope with large-sized data sets, but the good property of decision trees for large-sized data sets can also be harmful in data mining tasks, because we often may not have complete or perfect data

sets so that fragmenting the data sets could neglect minor classes, even the size of the data sets are large. Other good point of decision trees is understandability, because the structure of decision tree is represented in symbolic form.

RBF networks make approximation based on training data, and Gaussian functions are used mostly as the radial basis function. In order to train RBF networks, we may use some unsupervised learning algorithms like k-means clustering. Since RBF networks have different performance depending on the number of clusters and training data sets, we want to find better RBF networks based on some objective knowledge models like decision trees, where we can understand the structure of the decision trees easily. Most target data sets for data mining have some skewed distribution in class values, and this fact can be checked easily by inspecting the terminal nodes of decision trees. Moreover, we may also use the information of the number of terminal nodes in the trees as the initial number of clusters for k-means clustering of RBF networks.

The proposed procedure uses the class distribution information and the information of the number of terminal nodes in the generated tree for over-sampling and initialization for the number of clusters of RBF networks. Experiments with two real world data sets in business and scientific domain give us the possibility that we may find better RBF networks effectively.

Because oversampling can generate different class distribution in training data set, we can infer that trained RBF networks may have some different performance compared to original data set. Future work will be some detailed analysis for the effect of oversampling to utilize the RBF networks effectively.

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