

#### US006728689B1

# (12) United States Patent Drissi et al.

(10) Patent No.: US 6,728,689 B1

(45) **Date of Patent:** Apr. 27, 2004

(54) METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
GENERATING A DATA CLASSIFICATION
MODEL USING INTERACTIVE ADAPTIVE
LEARNING ALGORITHMS

(75) Inventors: **Youssef Drissi**, Ossining, NY (US); **Ricardo Vilalta**, Stamford, CT (US)

(73) Assignee: International Business Machines Corporation, Armonk, NY (US)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 416 days.

# (56) References Cited

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,701,400	Α	*	12/1997	Amado	706/45
5,787,234	Α	*	7/1998	Molloy	706/46
5,870,731	Α	*	2/1999	Trif et al	706/52
6,169,981	B1	*	1/2001	Werbos	706/23
6,249,781	B1	*	6/2001	Sutton	706/25
6,581,048	B1	*	6/2003	Werbos	706/23

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Breiman, "Bagging Predictors," Machine Learning, 23 123–140 (1996).\*

Gama et al., "Characterization of Classification Algorithms," In C Pinto-Ferreira and N. Mameda (eds.) Progress in Artificial Intelligence, 189–200 (1995).\*

Perez et al., "Learning Despite Concept Variation by Finding Structure in Attribute–Based Data," International mConference on Machine Learning (1996).\*

Thrun et al., "Learning One More Thing," Proc. of ISCA Montreal (1995).\*

(List continued on next page.)

Primary Examiner—Anil Khatri Assistant Examiner—Michael B. Holmes (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP; Louis J. Percello

## (57) ABSTRACT

A data classification method and apparatus are disclosed for labeling unknown objects. The disclosed data classification system employs a learning algorithm that adapts through experience. The present invention classifies objects in domain datasets using data classification models having a corresponding bias and evaluates the performance of the data classification. The performance values for each domain dataset and corresponding model bias are processed to identify or modify one or more rules of experience. The rules of experience are subsequently used to generate a model for data classification. Each rule of experience specifies one or more characteristics for a domain dataset and a corresponding bias that should be utilized for a data classification model if the rule is satisfied. The present invention dynamically modifies the assumptions (bias) of the learning algorithm to improve the assumptions embodied in the generated models and thereby improve the quality of the data classification and regression systems that employ such models. A dynamic bias may be employed in the meta-learning algorithm by utilizing two self-adaptive learning algorithms. In a first function, each self-adaptive learning algorithm generates models used for data classification. In a second function, each self-adaptive learning algorithm serves as an adaptive meta-learner for the other adaptive learning algorithm.

# 24 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

900

