Outline

[read Chapter 2]
[suggested exercises 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.6]

- Learning from examples
- General-to-specific ordering over hypotheses
- Version spaces and candidate elimination algorithm
- Picking new examples
- The need for inductive bias

Note: simple approach assuming no noise, illustrates key concepts

Training Examples for PayDividend

Price	Earnings	Sect.	Market	Exch.	Outlook	Dvdnd?
Up	High	Mfg.	Bull	NYSE	Strong	Yes
Up	High	Srv.	Bull	NYSE	Strong	Yes
Down	Low	Srv.	Bull	NYSE	Weak	No
Up	High	Srv.	Bull	Nasdaq	Weak	Yes

What is the general concept?

Representing Hypotheses

Many possible representations

Here, h is conjunction of constraints on attributes

Each constraint can be

- a specfic value (e.g., $Market = Bull$)
- don't care (e.g., "$Market = ?$")
- no value allowed (e.g.,"Market=$\emptyset$")

For example,

Price	Earnings	Sector	Market	Exchange	Outlook
$\langle Up$	?	?	$Bull$	?	$Weak\rangle$

Prototypical Concept Learning Task

- **Given:**
  - Instances X: Possible stocks, each described by the attributes *Price, Earnings, Sector, Market, Exchange, Outlook*
  - Target function c: $PayDividend : X \rightarrow \{0,1\}$
  - Hypotheses H: Conjunctions of literals. E.g.

    $$\langle ?, Down, Srv., ?, ?, ? \rangle.$$

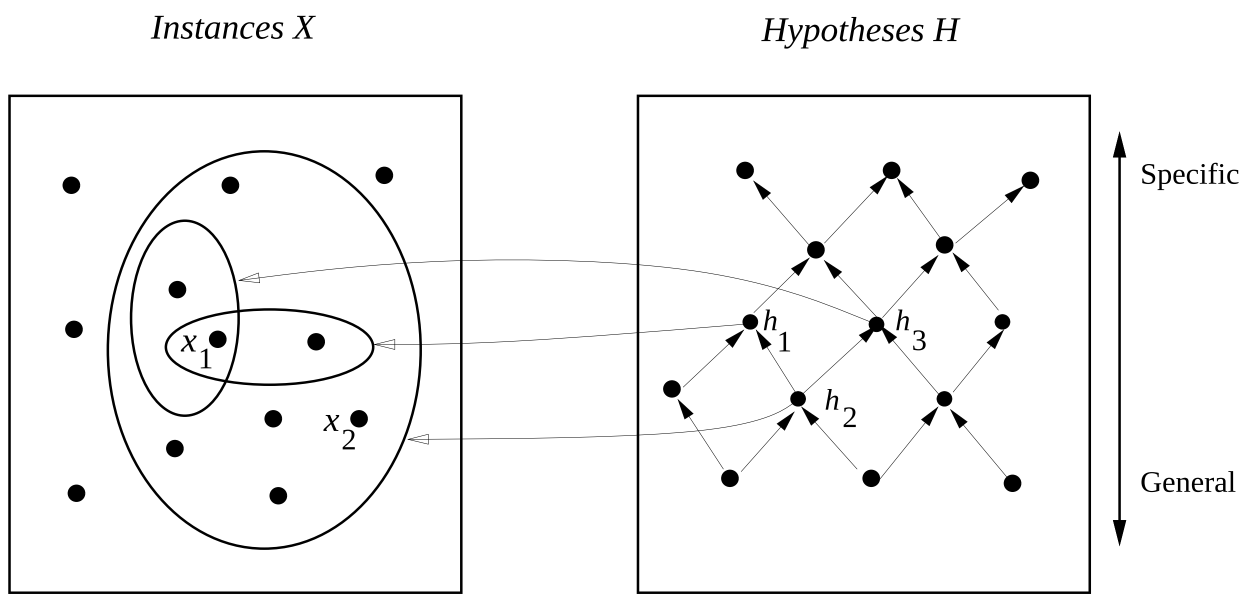
  - Training examples D: Positive and negative examples of the target function

    $$\langle x_1, c(x_1) \rangle, \ldots \langle x_m, c(x_m) \rangle$$

- **Determine:** A hypothesis h in H such that $h(x) = c(x)$ for all x in D.

The inductive learning hypothesis: Any hypothesis found to approximate the target function well over a sufficiently large set of training examples will also approximate the target function well over other unobserved examples.

Instance, Hypotheses, and More-General-Than



x_1 = <Up, High, Srv., Bull, Nasdaq, Weak>
x_2 = <Up, High, Srv., Bear, NYSE, Strong>

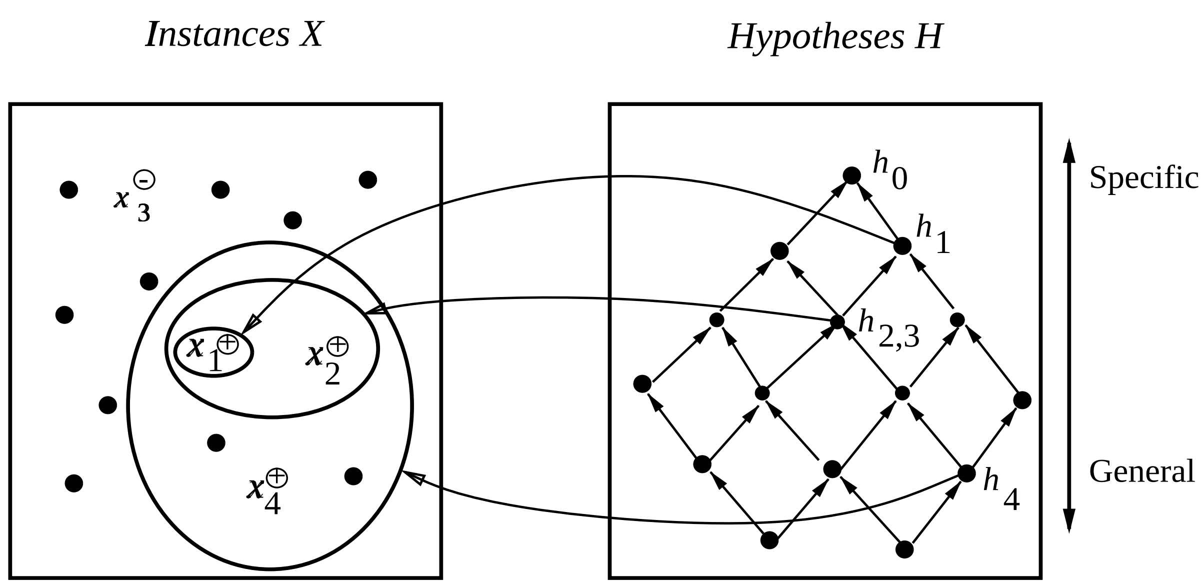
h_1 = <Up, ?, ?, Bull, ?, ?>
h_2 = <Up, ?, ?, ?, ?, ?>
h_3 = <Up, ?, ?, ?, Nasdaq, ?>

Find-S **Algorithm**

1. Initialize h to the most specific hypothesis in H
2. For each positive training instance x
   - For each attribute constraint a_i in h

     If the constraint a_i in h is satisfied by x
     Then do nothing
     Else replace a_i in h by the next more general constraint that is satisfied by x
3. Output hypothesis h

Hypothesis Space Search by Find-S



x_1 = <Up High Mfg. Bull NYSE Strong>, +
x_2 = <Up High Srv. Bull NYSE Strong>, +
x_3 = <Down Low Srv. Bull NYSE Weak>, -
x_4 = <Up High Srv. Bull Nasdaq Weak>, +

h_0 = <∅, ∅, ∅, ∅, ∅, ∅>
h_1 = <Up High Mfg. Bull NYSE Strong>
h_2 = <Up High ? Bull NYSE Strong>
h_3 = <Up High ? Bull NYSE Strong>
h_4 = <Up High ? Bull ? ? >

Complaints about Find-S

- Can't tell whether it has learned concept
- Can't tell when training data inconsistent
- Picks a maximally specific h (why?)
- Depending on H, there might be several!

Version Spaces

A hypothesis h is **consistent** with a set of training examples D of target concept c if and only if $h(x) = c(x)$ for each training example $\langle x, c(x) \rangle$ in D.

$$Consistent(h, D) \equiv (\forall \langle x, c(x) \rangle \in D)\; h(x) = c(x)$$

The **version space**, $VS_{H,D}$, with respect to hypothesis space H and training examples D, is the subset of hypotheses from H consistent with all training examples in D.

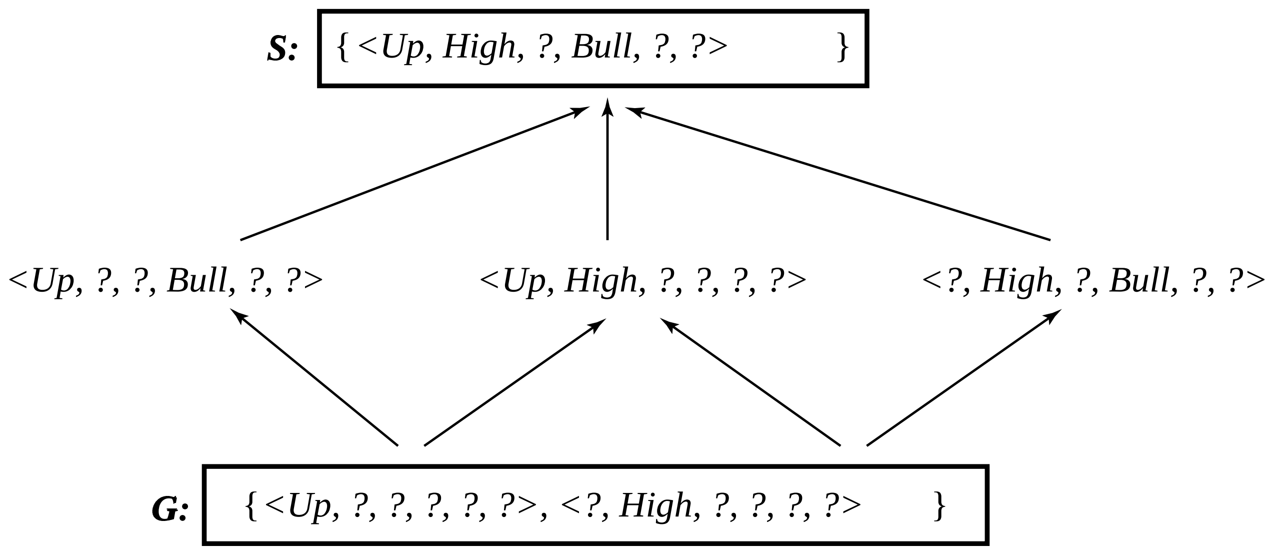
$$VS_{H,D} \equiv \{h \in H | Consistent(h, D)\}$$

The List-Then-Eliminate **Algorithm:**

1. $VersionSpace \leftarrow$ a list containing every hypothesis in H
2. For each training example, $\langle x, c(x) \rangle$

   remove from $VersionSpace$ any hypothesis h for which $h(x) \neq c(x)$
3. Output the list of hypotheses in $VersionSpace$

Example Version Space



Representing Version Spaces

The **General boundary**, G, of version space $VS_{H,D}$ is the set of its maximally general members

The **Specific boundary**, S, of version space $VS_{H,D}$ is the set of its maximally specific members

Every member of the version space lies between these boundaries

$$VS_{H,D} = \{h \in H | (\exists s \in S)(\exists g \in G)(g \geq h \geq s)\}$$

where $x \geq y$ means x is more general or equal to y

Candidate Elimination Algorithm

$G \leftarrow$ maximally general hypotheses in H
$S \leftarrow$ maximally specific hypotheses in H
For each training example d, do

- If d is a positive example
  - Remove from G any hypothesis inconsistent with d
  - For each hypothesis s in S that is not consistent with d
    * Remove s from S
    * Add to S all minimal generalizations h of s such that
      1. h is consistent with d, and
      2. some member of G is more general than h
    * Remove from S any hypothesis that is more general than another hypothesis in S
- If d is a negative example

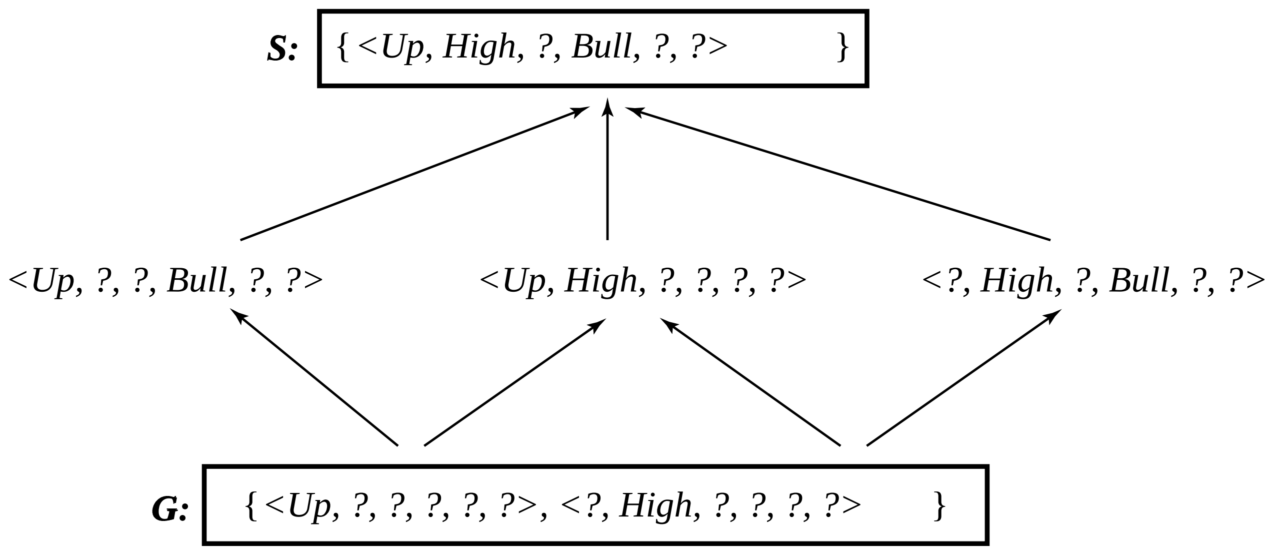
- Remove from S any hypothesis inconsistent with d
- For each hypothesis g in G that is not consistent with d
  * Remove g from G
  * Add to G all minimal specializations h of g such that
    1. h is consistent with d, and
    2. some member of S is more specific than h
  * Remove from G any hypothesis that is less general than another hypothesis in G

Example Trace

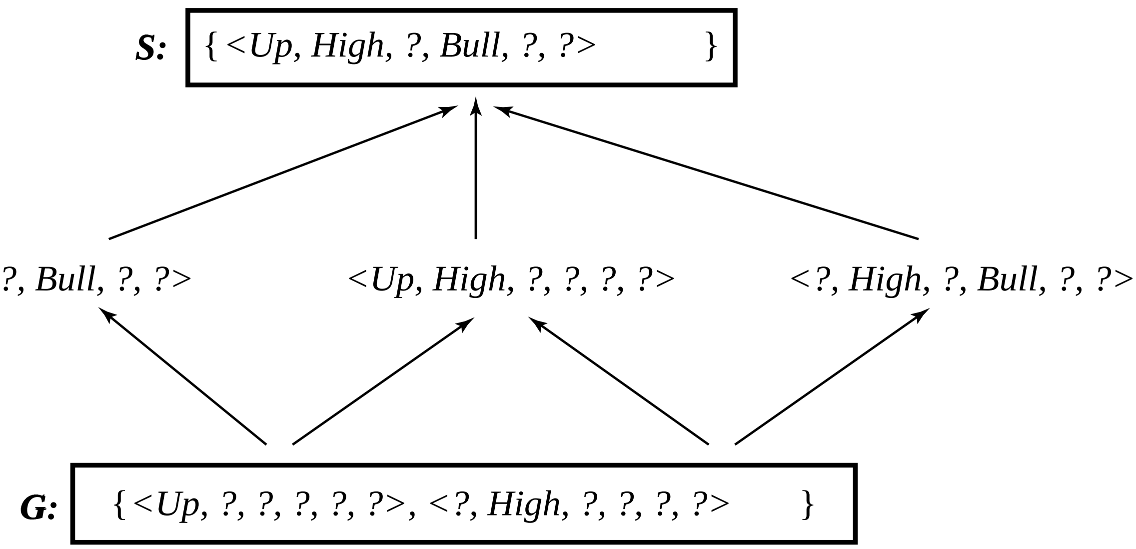
S_0: {<Ø, Ø, Ø, Ø, Ø, Ø>}

G_0: {<?, ?, ?, ?, ?, ?>}

What Next Training Example?



How Should These Be Classified?



$$\langle Up\ High\ Mfg.\ Bull\ Nasdaq\ Weak\rangle$$

$$\langle Down\ Low\ Mfg.\ Bear\ NYSE\ Strong\rangle$$

$$\langle Up\ High\ Mfg.\ Bear\ NYSE\ Strong\rangle$$

$$\langle Up\ Low\ Mfg.\ Bull\ NYSE\ Strong\rangle$$

What Justifies this Inductive Leap?

$$+ \ \langle Up\ High\ Mfg.\ Bull\ Nasdaq\ Weak \rangle$$

$$+ \ \langle Up\ High\ Mfg.\ Bear\ NYSE\ Strong \rangle$$

$$S: \quad \langle Up\ High\ Mfg.\ ?\ ?\ ? \rangle$$

Why believe we can classify the unseen

$$\langle Up\ High\ Mfg.\ Bull\ NYSE\ Strong \rangle$$

An UNBiased Learner

Idea: Choose H that expresses every teachable concept (i.e., H is the power set of X)

Consider $H' =$ disjunctions, conjunctions, negations over previous H. E.g.,

$$\langle Up\ High\ Mfg.\ ?\ ?\ ?\rangle \ \vee\ \neg\langle ?\ ?\ ?\ ?\ ?\ Weak\rangle$$

What are S, G in this case?

S $\leftarrow$

G $\leftarrow$

Inductive Bias

Consider

- concept learning algorithm L
- instances X, target concept c
- training examples $D_c = \{\langle x, c(x) \rangle\}$
- let $L(x_i, D_c)$ denote the classification assigned to the instance x_i by L after training on data D_c.

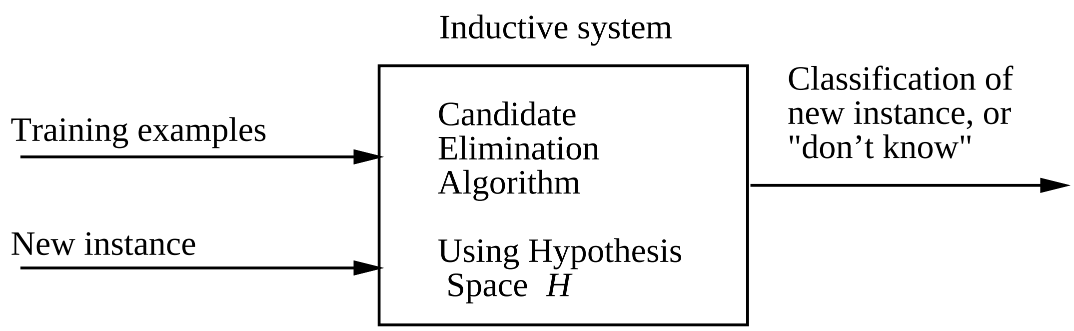
Definition:

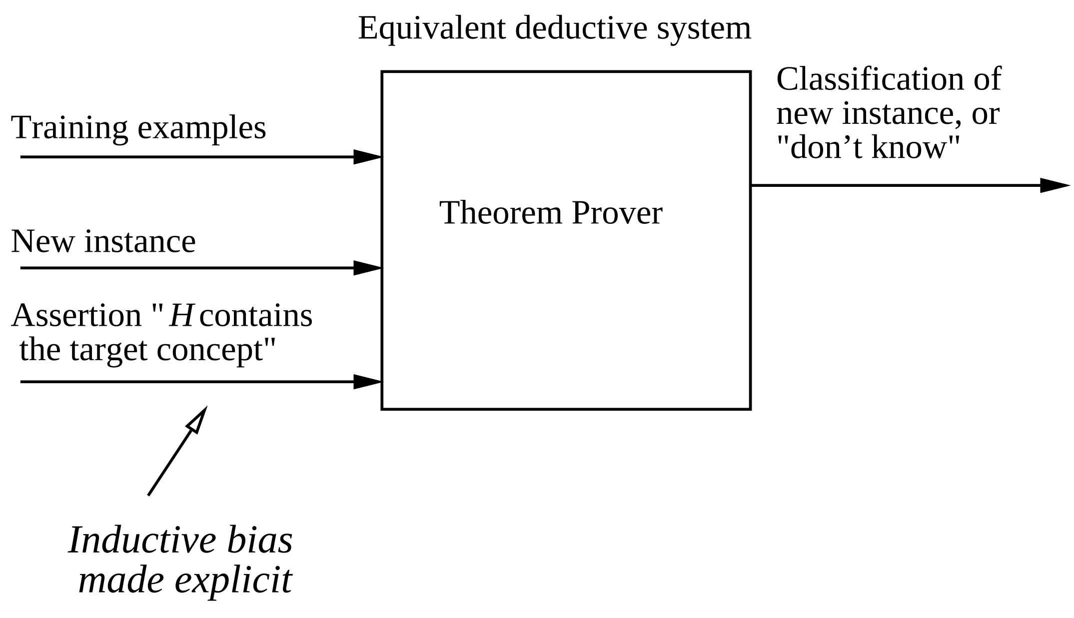
The **inductive bias** of L is any minimal set of assertions B such that for any target concept c and corresponding training examples D_c

$$(\forall x_i \in X)[(B \wedge D_c \wedge x_i) \vdash L(x_i, D_c)]$$

where $A \vdash B$ means A logically entails B

Inductive Systems and Equivalent Deductive Systems





Three Learners with Different Biases

1. *Rote learner:* Store examples, Classify x iff it matches previously observed example.
2. *Version space candidate elimination algorithm*
3. *Find-S*

Summary Points

1. Concept learning as search through H
2. General-to-specific ordering over H
3. Version space candidate elimination algorithm
4. S and G boundaries characterize learner's uncertainty
5. Learner can generate useful queries
6. Inductive leaps possible only if learner is biased
7. Inductive learners can be modelled by equivalent deductive systems