Data Analysis and Machine Learning: Getting started, our first data and Machine Learning encounters

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Introduction

Our emphasis throughout this series of lectures is on understanding the mathematical aspects of different algorithms used in the fields of data analysis and machine learning. However, where possible we will emphasize the importance of using available software. We start thus with a hands-on and top-down approach to machine learning. The aim is thus to start with relevant data and use these to introduce statistical data analysis concepts and machine learning algorithms before we delve into the algorithms themselves. The examples we will use in the beginning, start with simple polynomials with random noise added, and using the Python software package Scikit-learn we will introduce various machine learning algorithms to make fits of the data and predictions. We move thereafter to more interesting cases such as the simulation of financial transactions or disease models. These are examples where we can easily set up the data and then use machine learning algorithms included in for example **scikit-learn**. Another model we will consider is the so-called Ising model. Here we will use this model to produce data for selected spin configurations and attempt to classify the data. Finally, our last example consists of economic data from the OECD

Software and needed installations

We will make extensive use of Python as programming language and its myriad of available libraries. Furthermore, you will find IPython/Jupyter notebooks invaluable in your work. You can run **R** codes in the Jupyter/IPython notebooks, with the immediate benefit of visualizing your data. You can also use compiled languages like C++, Rust, Fortran etc if you prefer. The focus in these lectures will be on Python, but we will provide many code examples for those of you who prefer R or compiled languages. You can integrate C++ codes and R in for example a Jupyter notebook.

If you have Python installed (we recommend Python3) and you feel pretty familiar with installing different packages, we recommend that you install the following Python packages via **pip** as o pip install numpy scipy matplotlib ipython scikit-learn mglearn sympy pandas pillow For Python3, replace **pip** with **pip3**.

For OSX users we recommend also, after having installed Xcode, to install **brew**. Brew allows for a seamless installation of additional software via for example o brew install python3

Python installers

If you don't want to perform these operations separately and venture into the hassle of exploring how to set up dependencies and paths, we recommend two widely used distrubutions which set up all relevant dependencies for Python, namely o Anaconda, which is an open source distribution of the Python and R programming languages for large-scale data processing, predictive analytics, and scientific computing, that aims to simplify package management and deployment. Package versions are managed by the package management system **conda** o Enthought canopy is a Python distribution for scientific and analytic computing distribution and analysis environment, available for free and under a commercial license.

Installing R, C++, cython or Julia

You will also find it convenient to utilize R. Although we will mainly use Python during lectures and in various projects and exercises, we provide a full R set of codes for the same examples. Those of you already familiar with R should feel free to continue using R, keeping however an eye on the parallel Python set ups. Similarly, if you are a Python afecionado, feel free to explore R as well. Jupyter/Ipython notebook allows you to run **R** codes interactively in your browser. The software library **R** is tuned to statistically analysis and allows for an easy usage of the tools we will discuss in these texts.

To install **R** with Jupyter notebook following the link here

Installing R, C++, cython, Numba etc

For the C++ aficionados, Jupyter/IPython notebook allows you also to install C++ and run codes written in this language interactively in the browser. Since we will emphasize writing many of the algorithms yourself, you can thus opt for either Python or C++ (or Fortran or other compiled languages) as programming languages.

To add more entropy, **cython** can also be used when running your notebooks. It means that Python with the Jupyter/IPython notebook setup allows you to integrate widely popular softwares and tools for scientific computing. Similarly, the Numba Python package delivers increased performance capabilities with minimal rewrites of your codes. With its versatility, including symbolic operations, Python offers a unique computational environment. Your Jupyter/IPython notebook can easily be converted into a nicely rendered **PDF** file or a Latex file for further processing. For example, convert to latex as

```
pycod jupyter nbconvert filename.ipynb --to latex
```

Simple linear regression model using **scikit-learn**

We start with perhaps our simplest possible example, using **scikit-learn** to perform linear regression analysis on a data set produced by us. What follows is a simple Python code where we have defined function y in terms of the variable x. Both are defined as vectors of dimension 1×100. The entries to the vector $\hat{x}$ are given by random numbers generated with a uniform distribution with entries $x_i \in [0, 1]$ (more about probability distribution functions later). These values are then used to define a function $y(x)$ (tabulated again as a vector) with a linear dependence on x plus a random noise added via the normal distribution.

The Numpy functions are imported used the **import numpy as np** statement and the random number generator for the uniform distribution is called using the function **np.random.rand()**, where we specificy that we want 100 random variables. Using Numpy we define automatically an array with the specified number of elements, 100 in our case. With the Numpy function **randn()** we can compute random numbers with the normal distribution (mean value μ equal to zero and variance σ^2 set to one) and produce the

Predator-Prey model from ecology

The population dynamics of a simple predator-prey system is a classical example shown in many biology textbooks when ecological systems are discussed. The system contains all elements of the scientific method:

- The set up of a specific hypothesis combined with
- the experimental methods needed (one can study existing data or perform experiments)
- analyzing and interpreting the data and performing further experiments if needed
- trying to extract general behaviors and extract eventual laws or patterns
- develop mathematical relations for the uncovered regularities/laws and test these by per forming new experiments

Case study from Hudson bay

Lots of data about populations of hares and lynx collected from furs in Hudson Bay, Canada, are available. It is known that the populations oscillate. Why? Here we start by

1. plotting the data
2. derive a simple model for the population dynamics
3. (fitting parameters in the model to the data)
4. using the model predict the evolution other predator-pray systems

Hudson bay data

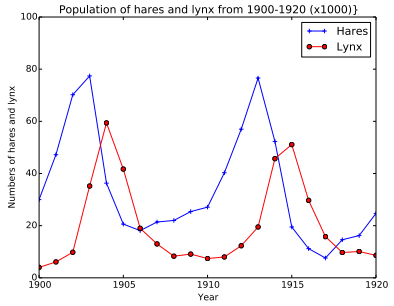
Most mammalian predators rely on a variety of prey, which complicates mathematical modeling; however, a few predators have become highly specialized and seek almost exclusively a single prey species. An example of this simplified predator-prey interaction is seen in Canadian northern forests, where the populations of the lynx and the snowshoe hare are intertwined in a life and death struggle. One reason that this particular system has been so extensively studied is that the Hudson Bay company kept careful records of all furs from the early 1800s into the 1900s. The records for the furs collected by the Hudson Bay company showed distinct oscillations (approximately 12 year periods), suggesting that these species caused almost periodic fluctuations of each other's populations. The table here shows data from 1900 to 1920.

Year	Hares (x1000)	Lynx (x1000)
1900	30.0	4.0
1901	47.2	6.1
1902	70.2	9.8
1903	77.4	35.2
1904	36.3	59.4
1905	20.6	41.7

Plotting the data

```
import numpy as np
from  matplotlib import pyplot as plt

# Load in data file
data = np.loadtxt('src/Hudson_Bay.csv', delimiter=',', skiprows=1)
# Make arrays containing x-axis and hares and lynx populations
year = data[:,0]
hares = data[:,1]
lynx = data[:,2]

plt.plot(year, hares ,'b-+', year, lynx, 'r-o')
plt.axis([1900,1920,0, 100.0])
plt.xlabel(r'Year')
plt.ylabel(r'Numbers of hares and lynx ')
plt.legend(('Hares','Lynx'), loc='upper right')
plt.title(r'Population of hares and lynx from 1900-1920 (x1000)}')
plt.savefig('Hudson_Bay_data.pdf')
plt.savefig('Hudson_Bay_data.png')
plt.show()
```

Hares and lynx in Hudson bay from 1900 to 1920



Why now create a computer model for the hare and lynx populations?

We see from the plot that there are indeed fluctuations. We would like to create a mathematical model that explains these population fluctuations. Ecologists have predicted that in a simple predator-prey system that a rise in prey population is followed (with a lag) by a rise in the predator population. When the predator population is sufficiently high, then the prey population begins dropping. After the prey population falls, then the predator population falls, which allows the prey population to recover and complete one cycle of this interaction. Thus, we see that qualitatively oscillations occur. Can a mathematical model predict this? What causes cycles to slow or speed up? What affects the amplitude of the oscillation or do you expect to see the oscillations damp to a stable equilibrium? The models tend to ignore factors like climate and other complicating factors. How significant are these?

- We see oscillations in the data

The traditional (top-down) approach

The classical way (in all books) is to present the Lotka-Volterra equations:

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = H(a - bL)$$
$$\frac{dL}{dt} = -L(d - cH)$$

Here,

- H is the number of preys
- L the number of predators
- a, b, d, c are parameters

Most books quickly establish the model and then use considerable space on discussing the qualitative properties of this *nonlinear system of ODEs* (which cannot be solved)

Basic mathematics notation

- Time points: $t_0, t_1, \ldots, t_m$
- Uniform distribution of time points: $t_n = n\Delta t$
- H^n: population of hares at time t_n
- L^n: population of lynx at time t_n
- We want to model the changes in populations, $\Delta H = H^{n+1} - H^n$ and $\Delta L = L^{n+1} - L^n$ during a general time interval $[t_{n+1}, t_n]$ of length $\Delta t = t_{n+1} - t_n$

Basic dynamics of the population of hares

The population of hares evolves due to births and deaths exactly as a bacteria population:

$$\Delta H = a\Delta t H^n$$

However, hares have an additional loss in the population because they are eaten by lynx. All the hares and lynx can form $H \cdot L$ pairs in total. When such pairs meet during a time interval Δt, there is some small probablity that the lynx will eat the hare. So in fraction $b\Delta tHL$, the lynx eat hares. This loss of hares must be accounted for. Subtracted in the equation for hares:

$$\Delta H = a\Delta t H^n - b\Delta t H^n L^n$$

Basic dynamics of the population of lynx

We assume that the primary growth for the lynx population depends on sufficient food for raising lynx kittens, which implies an adequate source of nutrients from predation on hares. Thus, the growth of the lynx population does not only depend of how many lynx there are, but on how many hares they can eat. In a time interval ΔtHL hares and lynx can meet, and in a fraction $b\Delta tHL$ the lynx eats the hare. All of this does not contribute to the growth of lynx, again just a fraction of $b\Delta tHL$ that we write as $d\Delta tHL$. In addition, lynx die just as in the population dynamics with one isolated animal population, leading to a loss $-c\Delta tL$.

The accounting of lynx then looks like

$$\Delta L = d\Delta t H^n L^n - c\Delta t L^n$$

Evolution equations

By writing up the definition of ΔH and ΔL, and putting all assumed known terms H^n and L^n on the right-hand side, we have

$$H^{n+1} = H^n + a\Delta t H^n - b\Delta t H^n L^n$$

$$L^{n+1} = L^n + d\Delta t H^n L^n - c\Delta t L^n$$

Note:

- These equations are ready to be implemented!
- But to start, we need H^0 and L^0 (which we can get from the data)
- We also need values for a, b, d, c

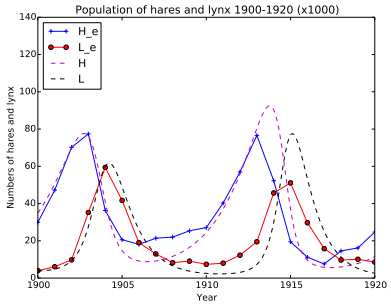
Adapt the model to the Hudson Bay case

- As always, models tend to be general - as here, applicable to "all" predator-pray systems
- The critical issue is whether the *interaction* between hares and lynx is sufficiently well modeled by constHL
- The parameters a, b, d, and c must be estimated from data
- Measure time in years
- $t_0 = 1900$, $t_m = 1920$

The program

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

def solver(m, H0, L0, dt, a, b, c, d, t0):
    """Solve the difference equations for H and L over m years
    with time step dt (measured in years."""

    num_intervals = int(m/float(dt))
    t = np.linspace(t0, t0 + m, num_intervals+1)
    H = np.zeros(t.size)
    L = np.zeros(t.size)

    print('Init:', H0, L0, dt)
    H[0] = H0
    L[0] = L0

    for n in range(0, len(t)-1):
        H[n+1] = H[n] + a*dt*H[n] - b*dt*H[n]*L[n]
        L[n+1] = L[n] + d*dt*H[n]*L[n] - c*dt*L[n]
    return H, L, t

# Load in data file
data = np.loadtxt('src/Hudson_Bay.csv', delimiter=',', skiprows=1)
# Make arrays containing x-axis and hares and lynx populations
t_e = data[:,0]
H_e = data[:,1]
L_e = data[:,2]
```

The plot



Linear regression in Python

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from IPython.display import display
import sklearn
from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeRegressor


data = np.loadtxt('src/Hudson_Bay.csv', delimiter=',', skiprows=1)
x = data[:,0]
y = data[:,1]
line = np.linspace(1900,1920,1000,endpoint=False).reshape(-1,1)
reg = DecisionTreeRegressor(min_samples_split=3).fit(x.reshape(-1,1),y
plt.plot(line, reg.predict(line), label="decision tree")
regline = LinearRegression().fit(x.reshape(-1,1),y.reshape(-1,1))
plt.plot(line, regline.predict(line), label= "Linear Regression")
plt.plot(x, y, label= "Linear Regression")
plt.show()
```

Linear Least squares in R

```
HudsonBay = read.csv("src/Hudson_Bay.csv",header=T)
fix(HudsonBay)
dim(HudsonBay)
names(HudsonBay)
plot(HudsonBay$Year, HudsonBay$Hares..x1000.)
attach(HudsonBay)
plot(Year, Hares..x1000.)
plot(Year, Hares..x1000., col="red", varwidth=T, xlab="Years", ylab="H
summary(HudsonBay)
summary(Hares..x1000.)
library(MASS)
library(ISLR)
scatter.smooth(x=Year, y = Hares..x1000.)
linearMod = lm(Hares..x1000. ~ Year)
print(linearMod)
summary(linearMod)
plot(linearMod)
confint(linearMod)
predict(linearMod,data.frame(Year=c(1910,1914,1920)),interval="confide
```

Non-Linear Least squares in R

```
set.seed(1485)
len = 24
x = runif(len)
y = x^3+rnorm(len, 0,0.06)
ds = data.frame(x = x, y = y)
str(ds)
plot( y ~ x, main ="Known cubic with noise")
s  = seq(0,1,length =100)
lines(s, s^3, lty =2, col ="green")
m = nls(y ~ I(x^power), data = ds, start = list(power=1), trace = T)
class(m)
summary(m)
power = round(summary(m)$coefficients[1], 3)
power.se = round(summary(m)$coefficients[2], 3)
plot(y ~ x, main = "Fitted power model", sub = "Blue: fit; green: know
s = seq(0, 1, length = 100)
lines(s, s^3, lty = 2, col = "green")
lines(s, predict(m, list(x = s)), lty = 1, col = "blue")
text(0, 0.5, paste("y =x^ (", power, " +/- ", power.se, ")", sep = "")
```

Example: ecoli lab experiment

Typical pattern:

The population grows faster and faster. Why? Is there an underlying (general) mechanism?

1. Cells divide after T seconds on average (one generation)
2. $2N$ celles divide into twice as many new cells ΔN in a time interval Δt as N cells would: $\Delta N \propto N$
3. N cells result in twice as many new individuals ΔN in time $2\Delta t$ as in time Δt: $\Delta N \propto \Delta t$
4. Same proportionality wrt death (repeat reasoning)
5. Proposed model: $\Delta N = b\Delta t N - d\Delta t N$ for some unknown constants b (births) and d (deaths)
6. Describe evolution in discrete time: $t_n = n\Delta t$
7. Program-friendly notation: N at t_n is N^n
8. Math model: $N^{n+1} = N^n + r\Delta t\, N$ (with $r = b - d$)
9. Program model: `N[n+1] = N[n] + r*dt*N[n]`

The program

Let us solve the difference equation in as simple way as possible, just to train some programming: $r = 1.5$, $N^0 = 1$, $\Delta t = 0.5$

```
import numpy as np

t = np.linspace(0, 10, 21)  # 20 intervals in [0, 10]
dt = t[1] - t[0]
N = np.zeros(t.size)

N[0] = 1
r = 0.5

for n in range(0, N.size-1, 1):
    N[n+1] = N[n] + r*dt*N[n]
    print 'N[%d]=%.1f' % (n+1, N[n+1])
```

The output

```
N[1]=1.2
N[2]=1.6
N[3]=2.0
N[4]=2.4
N[5]=3.1
N[6]=3.8
N[7]=4.8
N[8]=6.0
N[9]=7.5
N[10]=9.3
N[11]=11.6
N[12]=14.6
N[13]=18.2
N[14]=22.7
N[15]=28.4
N[16]=35.5
N[17]=44.4
N[18]=55.5
N[19]=69.4
N[20]=86.7
```

Parameter estimation

- We do not know r
- How can we estimate r from data?

We can use the difference equation with the experimental data

$$N^{n+1} = N^n + r\Delta t N^n$$

Say N^{n+1} and N^n are known from data, solve wrt r:

$$r = \frac{N^{n+1} - N^n}{N^n \Delta t}$$

Use experimental data in the fraction, say $t_1 = 600$, $t_2 = 1200$, $N^1 = 140$, $N^2 = 250$: $r = 0.0013$.

A program relevant for the biological problem

```
import numpy as np

# Estimate r
data = np.loadtxt('ecoli.csv', delimiter=',')
t_e = data[:,0]
N_e = data[:,1]
i = 2  # Data point (i,i+1) used to estimate r
r = (N_e[i+1] - N_e[i])/(N_e[i]*(t_e[i+1] - t_e[i]))
print 'Estimated r=%.5f' % r
# Can experiment with r values and see if the model can
# match the data better

T = 1200      # cell can divide after T sec
t_max = 5*T  # 5 generations in experiment
t = np.linspace(0, t_max, 1000)
dt = t[1] - t[0]
N = np.zeros(t.size)

N[0] = 100
for n in range(0, len(t)-1, 1):
    N[n+1] = N[n] + r*dt*N[n]

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
plt.plot(t, N, 'r-', t_e, N_e, 'bo')
plt.xlabel('time [s]');  plt.ylabel('N')
plt.legend(['model', 'experiment'], loc='upper left')
plt.show()
```

Simulating financial transactions

The aim here is to simulate financial transactions among financial agents using Monte Carlo methods. The final goal is to extract a distribution of income as function of the income m. From Pareto's work (V. Pareto, 1897) it is known from empirical studies that the higher end of the distribution of money follows a distribution

$$w_m \propto m^{-1-\alpha},$$

with $\alpha \in [1, 2]$. We will here follow the analysis made by Patriarca and collaborators.

Here we will study numerically the relation between the micro-dynamic relations among financial agents and the resulting macroscopic money distribution.

We assume we have N agents that exchange money in pairs (i, j). We assume also that all agents start with the same amount of money $m_0 > 0$. At a given 'time step', we choose randomly a pair of agents (i, j) and let a transaction take place. This means that agent i's money m_i changes to m_i' and similarly we have $m_j \to m_j'$. Money is conserved during a transaction, meaning that

Particle in one dimension an velocity distribution

```
# Program to test the Metropolis algorithm with one particle at given
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.mlab as mlab
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import random
from math import sqrt, exp, log
# initialize the rng with a seed
random.seed()
# Hard coding of input parameters
MCcycles = 100000
Temperature = 2.0
beta = 1./Temperature
InitialVelocity = -2.0
CurrentVelocity = InitialVelocity
Energy = 0.5*InitialVelocity*InitialVelocity
VelocityRange = 10*sqrt(Temperature)
VelocityStep = 2*VelocityRange/10.
AverageEnergy = Energy
AverageEnergy2 = Energy*Energy
VelocityValues = np.zeros(MCcycles)
# The Monte Carlo sampling with Metropolis starts here
for i in range (1, MCcycles, 1):
    TrialVelocity = CurrentVelocity + (2.0*random.random() - 1.0)*Velo
    EnergyChange = 0.5*(TrialVelocity*TrialVelocity -CurrentVelocity*C
    if random.random() <= exp(-beta*EnergyChange):
        CurrentVelocity = TrialVelocity
        Energy += EnergyChange
        VelocityValues[i] = CurrentVelocity
```