

Regression Cost Fn

1) Mean Squared Error

$$MSE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 \quad y_i = \text{Actual}, \hat{y}_i = \text{predicted}$$

- used for regression tasks
- sensitive to outliers due to squared term (i.e. sensitive to very small / large values)
- Average squared difference

2) Mean Absolute Error

$$MAE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |y_i - \hat{y}_i|$$

- Average absolute difference
- used for regression tasks, equal weights to all errors
- less sensitive to large errors compared to MSE

3) Huber loss

- combination of MSE & MAE
- quadratic for small errors, linear for large errors (robust)

$$L(a) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 & |y_i - \hat{y}_i| < \delta \\ \delta |y_i - \hat{y}_i| - \frac{1}{2} \delta^2 & |y_i - \hat{y}_i| \geq \delta \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{small errors} \\ \text{large errors} \end{array}$$

δ = threshold

- Good for Regression with moderate outliers.

Classification Cost fn

1) Binary Cross Entropy loss (log loss)

$$L = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n [y_i \log_2(\hat{y}_i) + (1 - y_i) \log_2(1 - \hat{y}_i)]$$

2) Categorical Cross Entropy

$$L = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^K y_{ij} \log_2(\hat{y}_{ij}) \quad , \quad K = \text{No. of classes}$$

$y_{ij} = 1$ if class j is true label for instance i else 0

3) Hinge Loss

- used in binary classification, esp. SVMs.
- Encourages correct classification with margin of separation

$$L = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \max(0, 1 - y_i \hat{y}_i)$$

Custom Loss fn

1) Focal loss

- used in imbalance classification tasks.
- modifies cross entropy to focus on minority classes

$$L = -\alpha (1 - \hat{y}_i)^\gamma \log(\hat{y}_i)$$

α : Weight assign to class, High α = more contribution

γ : Focusing parameter \rightarrow focus on minority classes

Set $\alpha \geq 0.5$ for minority class

Set $\gamma = 2$ to focus on difficult eg. like rare true positives.