Machine Learning (CE 40717) Fall 2024

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September 28, 2024



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Classification problem

Classification (binary)

- Email: Spam / Not Spam?
- Online Transactions: Fraudulent / Genuine?
- Tumor: Malignant / Benign?

$$y \in \{0, 1\}$$
 0: "Negative Class" (e.g., benign tumor)
1: "Positive Class" (e.g., malignant tumor)

Introduction

Classification problem (cont.)

• Can we solve the problem using linear regression?



• We could fit a straight line and define a threshold at 0.5:

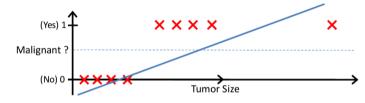
If
$$h_{\theta}(x) \ge 0.5$$
, predict $y = 1$

If
$$h_{\theta}(x) < 0.5$$
, predict $y = 0$

Classification problem (cont.)

Introduction

• What about now? (By adding a new data point)



- Classification: y = 0 or y = 1
 - $h_{\theta}(x)$ can be > 1 or < 0
 - Another drawback of using linear regression for this problem
- What we need:

Logistic regression: $0 \le h_{\theta}(x) \le 1$

• We also show this function with a different notation: f(x; w)

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Introduction

- Suppose we have a binary classification task (so K = 2).
- By observing age, gender, height, weight and BMI we try to distinguish if a person is overweight or not overweight.

| Age | Gender | Height (cm) | Weight (kg) | BMI | Overweight |
|-----|--------|-------------|-------------|------|------------|
| 25 | Male | 175 | 80 | 25.3 | 0 |
| 30 | Female | 160 | 60 | 22.5 | 0 |
| | | | | | |
| 35 | Male | 180 | 90 | 27.3 | 1 |

- We denote the features of a sample with vector *x* and the label with *y*.
- In logistic regression we try to find an f(x; w) which predicts **posterior** probabilities P(y = 1|x).

Introduction (cont.)

• f(x; w): probability that y = 1 given x (parameterized by \mathbf{w})

$$P(y = 1|x, \mathbf{w}) = f(x; \mathbf{w})$$

 $P(y = 0|x, \mathbf{w}) = 1 - f(x; \mathbf{w})$

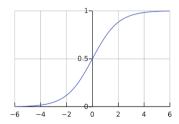
- We need to look for a function which gives us an output in the range [0, 1]. (like a probability).
- Let's denote this function with σ (.) and call it the **activation function**.

Introduction (cont.)

• Sigmoid (logistic) function.

$$\sigma(z) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}}$$

- A good candidate for activation function.
- It gives us a number between 0 and 1 smoothly.
- It is also differentiable



Introduction (cont.)

• The sigmoid function takes a number as input but we have:

$$x = [x_0 = 1, x_1, ..., x_d]$$

 $w = [w_0, w_1, ..., w_d]$

- So we can use the **dot product** of *x* and *w*.
- We have $f(x; \mathbf{w}) = \sigma(\mathbf{w}^T x)$, hence $0 \le f(x; \mathbf{w}) \le 1$. which is the estimated probability of y = 1 on input x.
- An Example : A basketball game (Win, Lose)
 - $f(x; \mathbf{w}) = 0.7$
 - In other terms 70 percent chance of winning the game.

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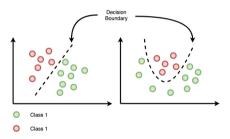
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Decision surface

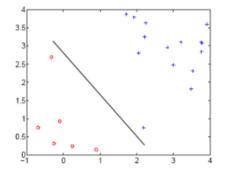
- Decision surface or decision boundary is the region of a problem space in which the output label of a classifier is ambiguous. (could be linear or non-linear)
- In binary classification it is where the probability of a sample belonging to each y = 0 and y = 1 is equal.

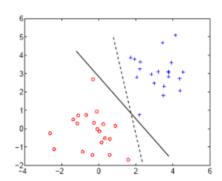


 Decision boundary hyperplane always has one less dimension than the feature space.

Decision surface (cont.)

• An example of linear decision boundaries:





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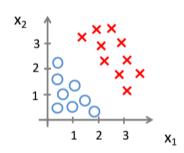
- Back to our logistic regression problem.
- Decision surface f(x; w) =**constant**.

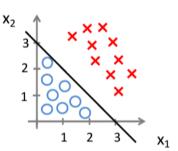
$$f(x; \mathbf{w}) = \sigma(\mathbf{w}^T x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\mathbf{w}^T x)}} = 0.5$$

- Decision surfaces are linear functions of x
 - if $f(x; \mathbf{w}) \ge 0.5$ then $\hat{y} = 1$, else $\hat{y} = 0$
 - Equivalently, if $\mathbf{w}^T x + w_0 \ge 0.5$ then decide $\hat{y} = 1$, else $\hat{y} = 0$

\hat{y} is the predicted label

$$f(x; w) = \sigma(w_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2)$$



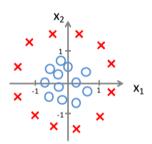


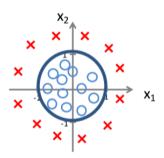
Predict y = 1 if $-3 + x_1 + x_2 \ge 0$

Non-linear decision boundary example

$$f(x; w) = \sigma(w_0 + w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + w_3x_1^2 + w_4x_2^2)$$

We can learn more complex decision boundaries when having higher order terms





Predict
$$y = 1$$
 if $-1 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 \ge 0$

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ML estimation

We had posterior of a sample as:

$$p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)},\mathbf{w})$$

- Logistic regression should maximize production of all these sample posteriors.
- Maximum (conditional) log likelihood:

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \underset{w}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \quad \log \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)}, \mathbf{w})$$

• Note that in **binary** classification *y* is either 1 or 0, So we can have posterior term simplified as follows:

$$p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)}, \mathbf{w}) = f(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{w})^{y^{(i)}} (1 - f(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{w}))^{(1 - y^{(i)})}$$



ML estimation

• Logarithm of the posterior probability:

$$\log p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)},\mathbf{x}) = y^{(i)}\log(f(x^{(i)};\mathbf{w})) + (1-y^{(i)})\log(1-f(x^{(i)};\mathbf{w}))$$

• Hence the log likelihood is as follows:

$$\log \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)}, \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)}, \mathbf{w})$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} [y^{(i)} \log(f(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{w})) + (1 - y^{(i)}) \log(1 - f(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{w}))]$$

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We should find

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \underset{w}{\operatorname{argmin}} \ J(w)$$

• MLE finds parameters that best describe a classification problem so cost function should be negative of log likelihood term:

$$J(w) = -\sum_{i=1}^{n} \log p(y^{(i)} | wx^{(i)}, \mathbf{w})$$

= $\sum_{i=1}^{n} -y^{(i)} \log(f(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{w})) - (1 - y^{(i)}) \log(1 - f(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{w}))$

- No closed form solution for $\nabla_w J(w) = 0$
- However I(w) is **convex**.

Cost function (cont.)

- Convexity of J(w) can easily be proved:
 - We use the lemma that sum of several convex functions is still convex (you can prove it on your own).
 - Each term in the summation is differentiable (twice).
 - If you twice get derivative of (with respect to *f*):

$$-y^{(i)}\log(f(x^{(i)};\mathbf{w})) - (1-y^{(i)})\log(1-f(x^{(i)};\mathbf{w}))$$

• You get:

$$\frac{y}{f^2} + \frac{1-y}{(1-f)^2}$$

- Which for both y = 0 and y = 1 is positive.
- Each $\log p(v^{(i)}|x^{(i)}, \mathbf{w})$ is convex, hence the summation is convex as well.



Cost function (cont.)

• Visualization of each binary cross entropy loss term (p is our prediction or f(x; w)):

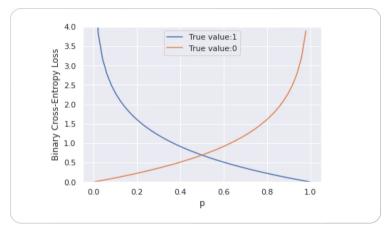


Figure adopted from medium.com/@shrividya.gs/log-loss-penalty-for-overconfidence-ce8cb540eb45 * 4 🗇 * 4 🛢 * 4 🛢 * 🕞 🕞 🗢 🔍

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Gradient descent

Remember from previous slides:

$$J(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} -y^{(i)} \log(f(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{w})) - (1 - y^{(i)}) \log(1 - f(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{w}))$$

Update rule for gradient descent:

$$w^{t+1} = w^t - \eta \nabla_w J(w^t)$$

• With J(w) definition for logistic regression we get:

$$\nabla_{w} J(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (f(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{w}) - y^{(i)}) x^{(i)}$$

• Also keep in mind $f(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{w}) = \sigma(\mathbf{w}^T x^{(i)})$

Gradient descent

 Compare the gradient of logistic regression with the gradient of SSE in linear regression:

$$\nabla_{w} J(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\sigma(\mathbf{w}^{T} x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)}) x^{(i)}$$

$$\nabla_{w} J(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\mathbf{w}^{T} x^{(i)} - y^{(i)}) x^{(i)}$$

Loss function

- Loss function is a single overall measure of loss incurred for taking our decisions (over entire dataset).
- We have:

$$Loss(y, f(x; \mathbf{w})) = -y \times \log(f(x; \mathbf{w})) - (1 - y) \times \log(1 - f(x; \mathbf{w}))$$

• Since in binary classification either y = 1 or y = 0 we have:

$$Loss(y, f(x; \mathbf{w})) = \begin{cases} -\log(f(x; \mathbf{w})) & \text{if } y = 1\\ -\log(1 - f(x; \mathbf{w})) & \text{if } y = 0 \end{cases}$$

• How is it related to zero-one loss? (\hat{y} is the predicted label and y is the ture label)

$$Loss(y, \hat{y}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y \neq \hat{y} \\ 0 & \text{if } y = \hat{y} \end{cases}$$

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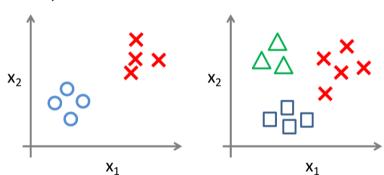


Multi-class logistic regression

• Now consider a problem where we have *K* classes and every sample only belongs to one class (for simplicity).

Binary classification:

Multi-class classification:



- For each class k, $f_k(x; \mathbf{W})$ predicts the probability of y = k.
 - i.e., $P(y = k | x, \mathbf{W})$
- For each data point x_0 , $\sum_{k=1}^K p(y=k|x_0, \mathbf{W})$ must be 1
 - W denotes a matrix of w_i 's in which each w_i is a weight vector dedicated for class label i.
- On a new input x, to make a prediction, we pick the class that maximizes $f_k(x; \mathbf{W})$:

$$\alpha(x) = \underset{k=1,\dots,K}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} f_k(x)$$

if $f_k(x) > f_j(x) \ \forall j \neq k$ then decide C_k

• K > 2 and $y \in \{1, 2, ..., K\}$

$$f_k(x, \mathbf{W}) = p(y = k|x) = \frac{\exp(w_k^T x)}{\sum_{j=1}^K \exp(w_j^T x)}$$

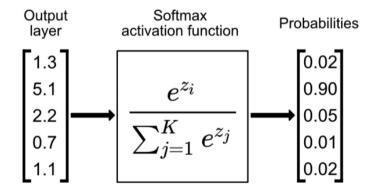
- Normalized exponential (Aka Softmax)
- if $w_k^T x \gg w_j^T x$ for all $j \neq k$ then $p(C_k | x) \approx 1$ and $p(C_j | x) \approx 0$
- Note: remember from Bayes theorem:

$$p(C_k|x) = \frac{p(x|C_k)p(C_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^{K} p(x|C_j)p(C_j)}$$

- Softmax function **smoothly** highlights the maximum probability and is differentiable.
- Compare it with max(.) function which is strict and non-differentiable
- Softmax can also handle negative values because we are using exponential function
- And it gives us probability for each class since:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{\exp(w_k^T x)}{\sum_{j=1}^{K} \exp(w_j^T x)} = 1$$

• An example of applying softmax (note that $z_i = w^T x_i$):



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- Again we set J(W) as negative of log likelihood.
- We need $\hat{W} = \underset{W}{\operatorname{arg min}} J(W)$

$$J(W) = -\log \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)}, \mathbf{W})$$

$$= -\log \prod_{i=1}^{n} \prod_{k=1}^{K} f_k(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{W})^{y_k^{(i)}}$$

$$= -\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{K} y_k^{(i)} \log(f_k(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{W}))$$

- If **i-th** sample belongs to class k then $y_{i}^{(i)}$ is 1 else 0.
- Again no closed-from solution for \hat{W}

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• From previous slides we have:

$$J(W) = -\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{K} y_k^{(i)} \log(f_k(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{W}))$$

• In which:

$$W = [w_1, w_2, \dots, w_K], \quad Y = \begin{pmatrix} y^{(1)} \\ y^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ y^{(n)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1^{(1)} & \dots & y_K^{(1)} \\ y_1^{(2)} & \dots & y_K^{(2)} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n)} & \dots & y_K^{(n)} \end{pmatrix}$$

- *y* is a vector of length *K* (1-of-*K* encoding)
 - For example $y = [0,0,1,0]^T$ when the target class is C_3 .

Multi-class logistic regression (cont.)

• Update rule for gradient descent:

$$w_{j}^{t+1} = w_{j}^{t} - \eta \nabla_{W} J(W^{t})$$
$$\nabla_{w_{j}} J(W) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (f_{j}(x^{(i)}; \mathbf{W}) - y_{j}^{(i)}) x^{(i)}$$

• w_j^t denotes the weight vector for class j (since in multi-class LR, each class has its own weight vector) in the t-th iteration

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Logistic regression (LR) summary

- LR is a **linear** classifier
- LR optimization problem is obtained by maximum likelihood
- No closed-form solution for its optimization problem
 - But convex cost function and global optimum can be found by gradient ascent

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Probabilistic view in classification problem

- In a classification problem:
 - Each **feature** is a **random variable** (e.g. a person's height)
 - The class label is also considered a random variable (e.g. a person could be overweight or not)
- We observe the feature values for a random sample and intend to find its class label
 - Evidence: Feature vector *x*
 - Objective: Class label

Posterior probability: The probability of a class label C_k given a sample x

$$p(C_k|x)$$

• Likelihood or class conditional probability: Pdf of feature vector x for samples of class C_k

$$p(x|C_k)$$

Prior probability: Probability of the label be C_k

$$p(C_k)$$

- p(x): Pdf of feature vector x
 - From total probability theorem:

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} p(x|C_k)p(C_k)$$



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Probabilistic classifiers

- Probabilistic approaches can be divided in two main categories:
 - Generative
 - Estimate pdf $p(x, C_k)$ for each class C_k and then use it to find $p(C_k|x)$. Alternatively estimate both pdf $p(x|C_k)$ and $p(C_k)$ to find $p(C_k|x)$.
 - Discriminative
 - Directly estimate $p(C_k|x)$ for class C_k

Probabilistic classifiers (cont.)

- Let's assume we have input data *x* and want to classify the data into labels *y*.
- A generative model learns the **joint** probability distribution p(x, y).
- A discriminative model learns the **conditional** probability distribution p(y|x)

Discriminative vs. Generative: example

• Suppose we have the following dataset in form of (*x*, *y*):

• p(x, y) is:

• p(y|x) is:

Discriminative vs. Generative: example (cont.)

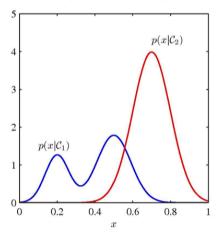
- The distribution p(y|x) is the natural distribution for classifying a given sample x into class y.
 - This is why that algorithms which model this directly are called discriminative algorithms.
- Generative algorithms model p(x, y), which can be transformed into p(y|x) by Bayes rule and then used for classification.
 - However, the distribution p(x, y) can also be used for other purposes.
 - For example we can use p(x, y) to **generate** likely (x, y) pairs

Generative approach

- Inference
 - Determine class conditional densities $p(x|C_k)$ and priors $p(C_k)$
 - Use Bayes theorem to find $p(C_k|x)$
- 2 Decision
 - Make optimal assignment for new input (after learning the model in the inference stage)
 - if $p(C_i|x) > p(C_i|x) \forall j \neq i$, then decide C_i .

Generative approach (cont.)

• Generative approach for a binary classification problem:



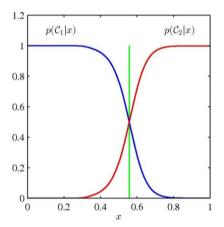
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Discriminative approach

- Inference
 - Determine the posterior class probabilities $p(C_k|x)$ directly.
- 2 Decision
 - Make optimal assignment for new input (after learning the model in the inference stage)
 - if $p(C_i|x) > p(C_i|x) \forall j \neq i$, then decide C_i .

Discriminative approach (cont.)

• Discriminative approach for a binary classification problem:



Discriminative approach (cont.)

- Logistic regression is a **discriminative** approach.
- We directly want to specify the class label with $f(x; \mathbf{w})$

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Contributions

- These slides are authored by:
 - Danial Gharib



- [1] M. Soleymani Baghshah, "Machine learning." Lecture slides.
- [2] A. Ng, "Ml-005, lecture 6." Lecture slides.
- [3] C. M. Bishop, *Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning*. Information Science and Statistics, New York, NY: Springer, 1 ed., Aug. 2006.
- [4] S. Fidler, "Csc411." Lecture slides.
- [5] A. Ng and T. Ma, *CS229 Lecture Notes*. Updated June 11, 2023.

Any Questions?