

# Logistic Regression

Background: Generative and  
Discriminative Classifiers

# Logistic Regression

Important analytic tool in natural and social sciences

Baseline supervised machine learning tool for classification

Is also the foundation of neural networks

# Generative and Discriminative Classifiers

Naive Bayes is a **generative classifier**

by contrast:

Logistic regression is a **discriminative classifier**

# Generative and Discriminative Classifiers

Suppose we're distinguishing cat from dog images



imagenet



imagenet

# Generative Classifier:

- Build a model of what's in a cat image
  - Knows about whiskers, ears, eyes
  - Assigns a probability to any image:
    - how cat-y is this image?



Also build a model for dog images

Now given a new image:

**Run both models and see which one fits better**

# Discriminative Classifier

Just try to distinguish dogs from cats



Oh look, dogs have collars!  
Let's ignore everything else

# Finding the correct class $c$ from a document $d$ in Generative vs Discriminative Classifiers

## Naive Bayes

$$\hat{c} = \operatorname{argmax}_{c \in C} \frac{\overbrace{P(d|c)}^{\text{likelihood}}}{\overbrace{P(c)}^{\text{prior}}}$$

## Logistic Regression

$$\hat{c} = \operatorname{argmax}_{c \in C} \frac{\overbrace{P(c|d)}^{\text{posterior}}}{\overbrace{P(d|c)}^{\text{likelihood}}}$$

# Components of a probabilistic machine learning classifier

Given  $m$  input/output pairs  $(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$ :

1. A **feature representation** of the input. For each input observation  $x^{(i)}$ , a vector of features  $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ . Feature  $j$  for input  $x^{(i)}$  is  $x_j$ , more completely  $x_j^{(i)}$ , or sometimes  $f_j(x)$ .
2. A **classification function** that computes  $\hat{y}$ , the estimated class, via  $p(y|x)$ , like the **sigmoid or softmax** functions.
3. An objective function for learning, like **cross-entropy loss**.
4. An algorithm for optimizing the objective function: **stochastic gradient descent**.

# The two phases of logistic regression

**Training:** we learn weights  $w$  and  $b$  using **stochastic gradient descent** and **cross-entropy loss.**

**Test:** Given a test example  $x$  we compute  $p(y|x)$  using learned weights  $w$  and  $b$ , and return whichever label ( $y = 1$  or  $y = 0$ ) is higher probability

# Logistic Regression

Background: Generative and  
Discriminative Classifiers

# Classification in Logistic Regression

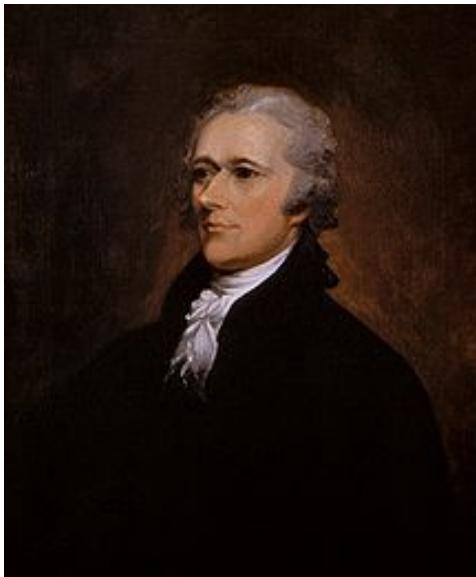
Logistic  
Regression

# Classification Reminder

Positive/negative sentiment

Spam/not spam

Authorship attribution  
(Hamilton or Madison?)



Alexander Hamilton

# Text Classification: definition

*Input:*

- a document  $x$
- a fixed set of classes  $C = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_J\}$

*Output:* a predicted class  $\hat{y} \in C$

# Binary Classification in Logistic Regression

Given a series of input/output pairs:

- $(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$

For each observation  $x^{(i)}$

- We represent  $x^{(i)}$  by a **feature vector**  $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$
- We compute an output: a predicted class  $\hat{y}^{(i)} \in \{0, 1\}$

# Features in logistic regression

- For feature  $x_i$ , weight  $w_i$  tells us how important is  $x_i$ 
  - $x_i = \text{"review contains 'awesome'"}: w_i = +10$
  - $x_j = \text{"review contains 'abysmal'"}: w_j = -10$
  - $x_k = \text{"review contains 'mediocre'"}: w_k = -2$

# Logistic Regression for one observation $x$

Input observation: vector  $x = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$

Weights: one per feature:  $W = [w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n]$

- Sometimes we call the weights  $\theta = [\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n]$

Output: a predicted class  $\hat{y} \in \{0, 1\}$

(multinomial logistic regression:  $\hat{y} \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ )

# How to do classification

For each feature  $x_i$ , weight  $w_i$  tells us importance of  $x_i$

- (Plus we'll have a bias  $b$ )

We'll sum up all the weighted features and the bias

$$z = \left( \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i \right) + b$$

$$z = w \cdot x + b$$

If this sum is high, we say  $y=1$ ; if low, then  $y=0$

But we want a probabilistic classifier

We need to formalize “sum is high”.

We'd like a principled classifier that gives us a probability, just like Naive Bayes did

We want a model that can tell us:

$$p(y=1 | x; \theta)$$

$$p(y=0 | x; \theta)$$

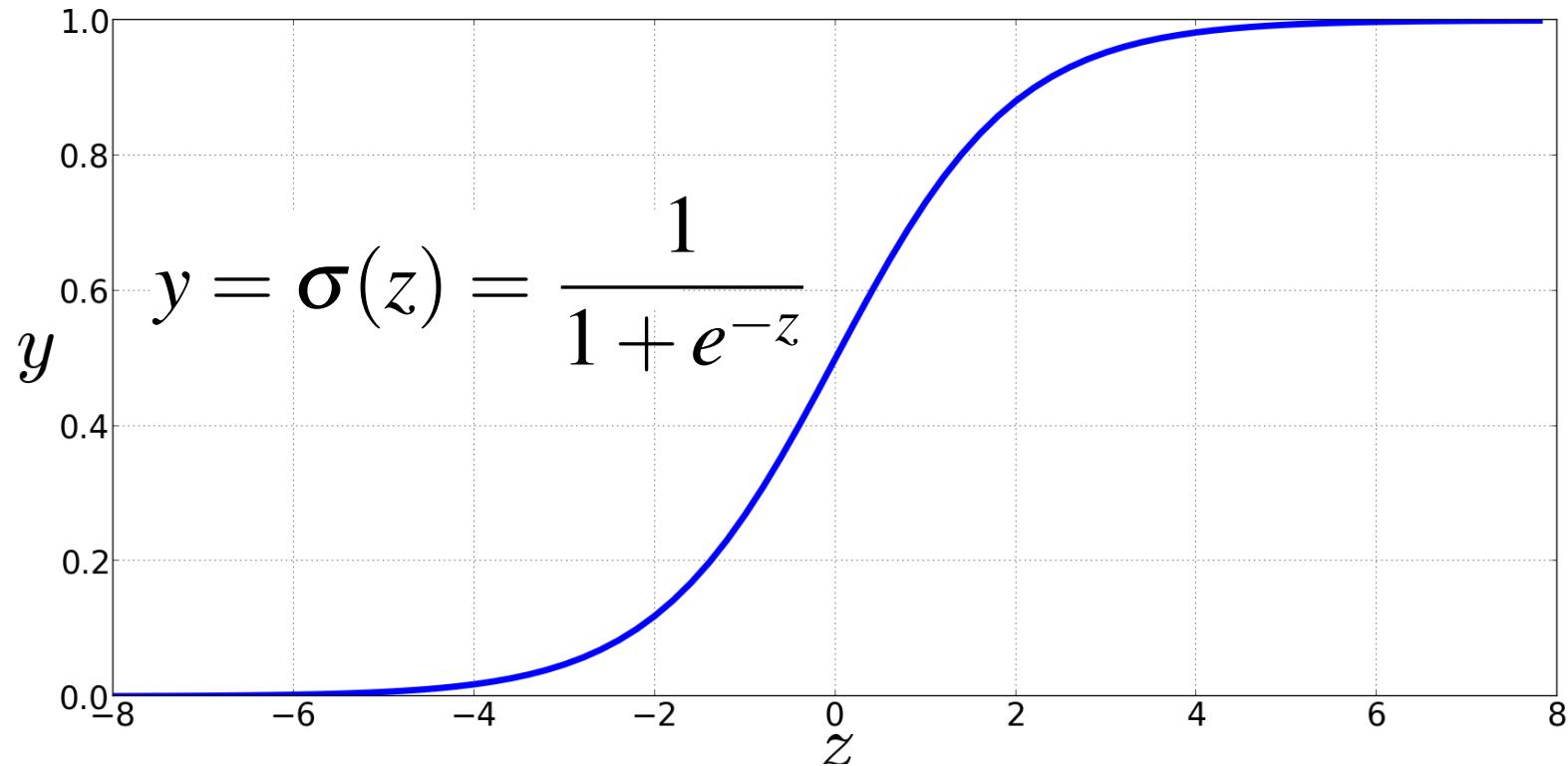
The problem:  $z$  isn't a probability, it's just a number!

$$z = w \cdot x + b$$

Solution: use a function of  $z$  that goes from 0 to 1

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

# The very useful sigmoid or logistic function



## Idea of logistic regression

We'll compute  $w \cdot x + b$

And then we'll pass it through the sigmoid function:

$$\sigma(w \cdot x + b)$$

And we'll just treat it as a probability

# Making probabilities with sigmoids

$$\begin{aligned} P(y = 1) &= \sigma(w \cdot x + b) \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(w \cdot x + b))} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(y = 0) &= 1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b) \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(w \cdot x + b))} \\ &= \frac{\exp(-(w \cdot x + b))}{1 + \exp(-(w \cdot x + b))} \end{aligned}$$

By the way:

$$\begin{aligned} P(y=0) &= 1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b) \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(w \cdot x + b))} \\ &= \frac{\exp(-(w \cdot x + b))}{1 + \exp(-(w \cdot x + b))} \end{aligned} \quad = \sigma(-(w \cdot x + b))$$

Because

$$1 - \sigma(x) = \sigma(-x)$$

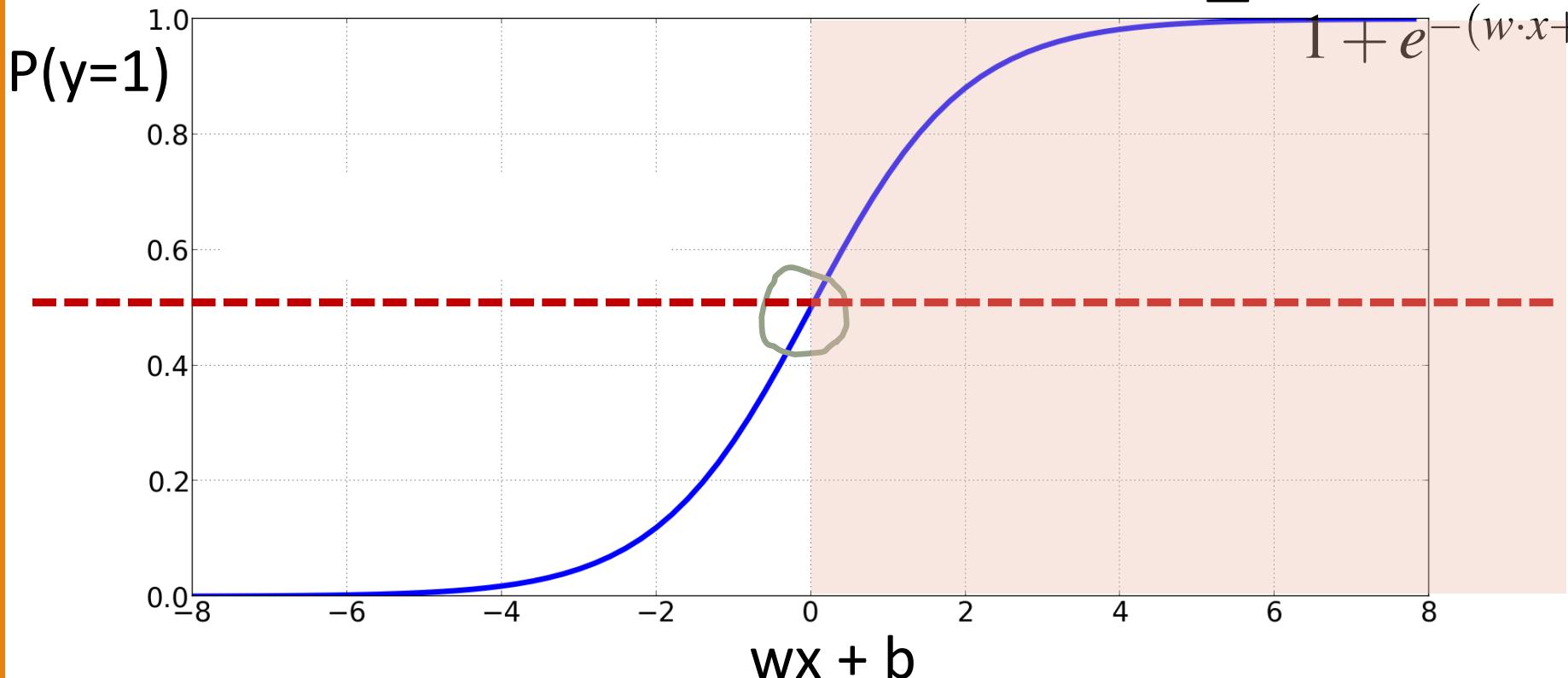
# Turning a probability into a classifier

$$\hat{y} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } P(y=1|x) > 0.5 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

0.5 here is called the **decision boundary**

The probabilistic classifier  $P(y = 1) = \sigma(w \cdot x + b)$

$$= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w \cdot x + b)}}$$



# Turning a probability into a classifier

$$\hat{y} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } P(y=1|x) > 0.5 \quad \text{if } w \cdot x + b > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \quad \text{if } w \cdot x + b \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

# Classification in Logistic Regression

Logistic  
Regression

# Logistic Regression

Logistic Regression: a text example  
on sentiment classification

# Sentiment example: does $y=1$ or $y=0$ ?

It's hokey . There are virtually no surprises , and the writing is second-rate . So why was it so enjoyable ? For one thing , the cast is great . Another nice touch is the music . I was overcome with the urge to get off the couch and start dancing . It sucked me in , and it'll do the same to you .

It's **hokey**. There are virtually **no** surprises , and the writing is **second-rate**.  
 So why was it so **enjoyable**? For one thing , the cast is  
**great**. Another **nice** touch is the music **I** was overcome with the urge to get off  
 the couch and start dancing . It sucked **me** in , and it'll do the same to **you** .

$$x_1 = 3$$

$$x_5 = 0$$

$$x_6 = 4.19$$

$$x_4 = 3$$

$$x_2 = 2$$

$$x_3 = 1$$

Var	Definition	Value in Fig. 5.2
$x_1$	count(positive lexicon) $\in$ doc)	3
$x_2$	count(negative lexicon) $\in$ doc)	2
$x_3$	$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if "no" } \in \text{doc} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	1
$x_4$	count(1st and 2nd pronouns $\in$ doc)	3
$x_5$	$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if "!" } \in \text{doc} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	0
$x_6$	$\ln(\text{word count of doc})$	$\ln(66) = 4.19$

# Classifying sentiment for input $x$

Var	Definition	Val	5.2
$x_1$	$\text{count}(\text{positive lexicon}) \in \text{doc}$ )	3	
$x_2$	$\text{count}(\text{negative lexicon}) \in \text{doc})$	2	
$x_3$	$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if “no”} \in \text{doc} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	1	
$x_4$	$\text{count}(1\text{st and 2nd pronouns} \in \text{doc})$	3	
$x_5$	$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if “!”} \in \text{doc} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	0	
$x_6$	$\log(\text{word count of doc})$	$\ln(66) = 4.19$	

Suppose  $w = [2.5, -5.0, -1.2, 0.5, 2.0, 0.7]$

$$b = 0.1$$

# Classifying sentiment for input $x$

$$\begin{aligned} p(+|x) = P(Y = 1|x) &= \sigma(w \cdot x + b) \\ &= \sigma([2.5, -5.0, -1.2, 0.5, 2.0, 0.7] \cdot [3, 2, 1, 3, 0, 4.19] + 0.1) \\ &= \sigma(.833) \\ &= 0.70 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(-|x) = P(Y = 0|x) &= 1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b) \\ &= 0.30 \end{aligned}$$

We can build features for logistic regression for any classification task: period disambiguation

This ends in a period.

The house at 465 Main St. is new.

End of sentence  
Not end

The text "This ends in a period." has a red circle around the final period character. The text "The house at 465 Main St. is new." has red circles around both periods in "St." and "new.". Red arrows point from the text "End of sentence" to the first period in the first sentence and from "Not end" to the second period in the second sentence.

$$x_1 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \text{"Case}(w_i) = \text{Lower"} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$x_2 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \text{"}w_i \in \text{AcronymDict"} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$x_3 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \text{"}w_i = \text{St.} \& \text{Case}(w_{i-1}) = \text{Cap"} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Classification in (binary) logistic regression: summary

Given:

- a set of classes: (+ sentiment, - sentiment)
- a vector  $\mathbf{x}$  of features  $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ 
  - $x_1 = \text{count}(\text{"awesome"})$
  - $x_2 = \log(\text{number of words in review})$
- A vector  $\mathbf{w}$  of weights  $[w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n]$ 
  - $w_i$  for each feature  $f_i$

$$\begin{aligned} P(y=1) &= \sigma(w \cdot x + b) \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w \cdot x + b)}} \end{aligned}$$

# Learning: Cross-Entropy Loss

Logistic  
Regression

# Wait, where did the W's come from?

Supervised classification:

- We know the correct label  $y$  (either 0 or 1) for each  $x$ .
- But what the system produces is an estimate,  $\hat{y}$

We want to set  $w$  and  $b$  to minimize the **distance** between our estimate  $\hat{y}^{(i)}$  and the true  $y^{(i)}$ .

- We need a distance estimator: a **loss function** or a **cost function**
- We need an optimization algorithm to update  $w$  and  $b$  to minimize the loss.

# Learning components

A loss function:

- **cross-entropy loss**

An optimization algorithm:

- **stochastic gradient descent**

# The distance between $\hat{y}$ and $y$

We want to know how far is the classifier output:

$$\hat{y} = \sigma(w \cdot x + b)$$

from the true output:

$$y \quad [= \text{either 0 or 1}]$$

We'll call this difference:

$$L(\hat{y}, y) = \text{how much } \hat{y} \text{ differs from the true } y$$

# Intuition of negative log likelihood loss = cross-entropy loss

A case of conditional maximum likelihood estimation

We choose the parameters  $w, b$  that maximize

- the log probability
- of the true  $y$  labels in the training data
- given the observations  $x$

# Deriving cross-entropy loss for a single observation $x$

**Goal:** maximize probability of the correct label  $p(y|x)$

Since there are only 2 discrete outcomes (0 or 1) we can express the probability  $p(y|x)$  from our classifier (the thing we want to maximize) as

$$p(y|x) = \hat{y}^y (1 - \hat{y})^{1-y}$$

noting:

if  $y=1$ , this simplifies to  $\hat{y}$

if  $y=0$ , this simplifies to  $1 - \hat{y}$

# Deriving cross-entropy loss for a single observation $x$

**Goal:** maximize probability of the correct label  $p(y|x)$

Maximize:  $p(y|x) = \hat{y}^y (1 - \hat{y})^{1-y}$

Now take the log of both sides (mathematically handy)

Maximize:  $\log p(y|x) = \log [\hat{y}^y (1 - \hat{y})^{1-y}]$   
=  $y \log \hat{y} + (1 - y) \log (1 - \hat{y})$

Whatever values maximize  $\log p(y|x)$  will also maximize  $p(y|x)$

Deriving cross-entropy loss for a single observation  $x$

**Goal:** maximize probability of the correct label  $p(y|x)$

**Maximize:**

$$\begin{aligned}\log p(y|x) &= \log [\hat{y}^y (1 - \hat{y})^{1-y}] \\ &= y \log \hat{y} + (1 - y) \log (1 - \hat{y})\end{aligned}$$

Now flip sign to turn this into a loss: something to minimize

**Cross-entropy loss** (because is formula for  $\text{cross-entropy}(y, \hat{y})$ )

**Minimize:**  $L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y) = -\log p(y|x) = -[y \log \hat{y} + (1 - y) \log (1 - \hat{y})]$

Or, plugging in definition of  $\hat{y}$ :

$$L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y) = -[y \log \sigma(w \cdot x + b) + (1 - y) \log (1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b))]$$

# Let's see if this works for our sentiment example

We want loss to be:

- smaller if the model estimate is close to correct
- bigger if model is confused

Let's first suppose the true label of this is  $y=1$  (positive)

It's hokey . There are virtually no surprises , and the writing is second-rate . So why was it so enjoyable ? For one thing , the cast is great . Another nice touch is the music . I was overcome with the urge to get off the couch and start dancing . It sucked me in , and it'll do the same to you .

# Let's see if this works for our sentiment example

True value is  $y=1$ . How well is our model doing?

$$\begin{aligned} p(+|x) = P(Y = 1|x) &= \sigma(w \cdot x + b) \\ &= \sigma([2.5, -5.0, -1.2, 0.5, 2.0, 0.7] \cdot [3, 2, 1, 3, 0, 4.19] + 0.1) \\ &= \sigma(.833) \\ &= 0.70 \end{aligned} \tag{5.6}$$

Pretty well! What's the loss?

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y) &= -[y \log \sigma(w \cdot x + b) + (1 - y) \log(1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b))] \\ &= -[\log \sigma(w \cdot x + b)] \\ &= -\log(.70) \\ &= .36 \end{aligned}$$

Let's see if this works for our sentiment example

Suppose true value instead was  $y=0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} p(-|x) = P(Y = 0|x) &= 1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b) \\ &= 0.30 \end{aligned}$$

What's the loss?

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y) &= -[y \log \sigma(w \cdot x + b) + (1 - y) \log(1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b))] \\ &= -[\log(1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b))] \\ &= -\log(.30) \\ &= 1.2 \end{aligned}$$

Let's see if this works for our sentiment example

The loss when model was right (if true  $y=1$ )

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y) &= -[y \log \sigma(w \cdot x + b) + (1 - y) \log(1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b))] \\ &= -[\log \sigma(w \cdot x + b)] \\ &= -\log(.70) \\ &= .36 \end{aligned}$$

Is lower than the loss when model was wrong (if true  $y=0$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y) &= -[y \log \sigma(w \cdot x + b) + (1 - y) \log(1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b))] \\ &= -[\log(1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b))] \\ &= -\log(.30) \\ &= 1.2 \end{aligned}$$

Sure enough, loss was bigger when model was wrong!

# Cross-Entropy Loss

Logistic  
Regression

# Stochastic Gradient Descent

## Logistic Regression

Our goal: minimize the loss

Let's make explicit that the loss function is parameterized by weights  $\theta=(w,b)$

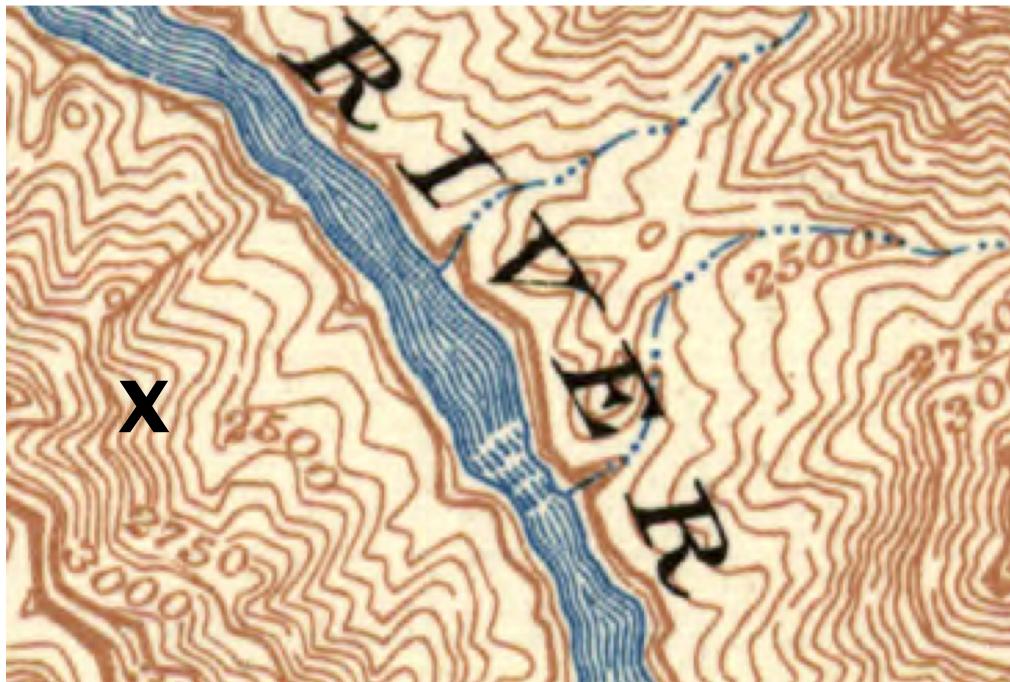
- And we'll represent  $\hat{y}$  as  $f(x; \theta)$  to make the dependence on  $\theta$  more obvious

We want the weights that minimize the loss, averaged over all examples:

$$\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m L_{\text{CE}}(f(x^{(i)}; \theta), y^{(i)})$$

# Intuition of gradient descent

How do I get to the bottom of this river canyon?



Look around me 360°  
Find the direction of  
steepest slope down  
Go that way

# Our goal: minimize the loss

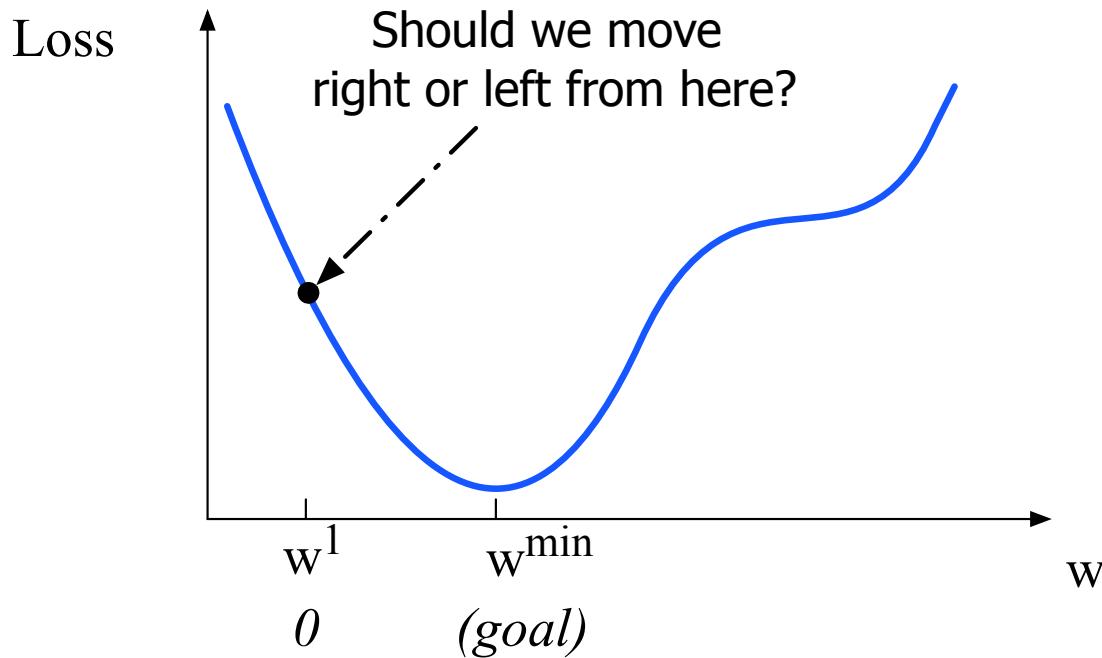
For logistic regression, loss function is **convex**

- A convex function has just one minimum
- Gradient descent starting from any point is guaranteed to find the minimum
  - (Loss for neural networks is non-convex)

# Let's first visualize for a single scalar $w$

Q: Given current  $w$ , should we make it bigger or smaller?

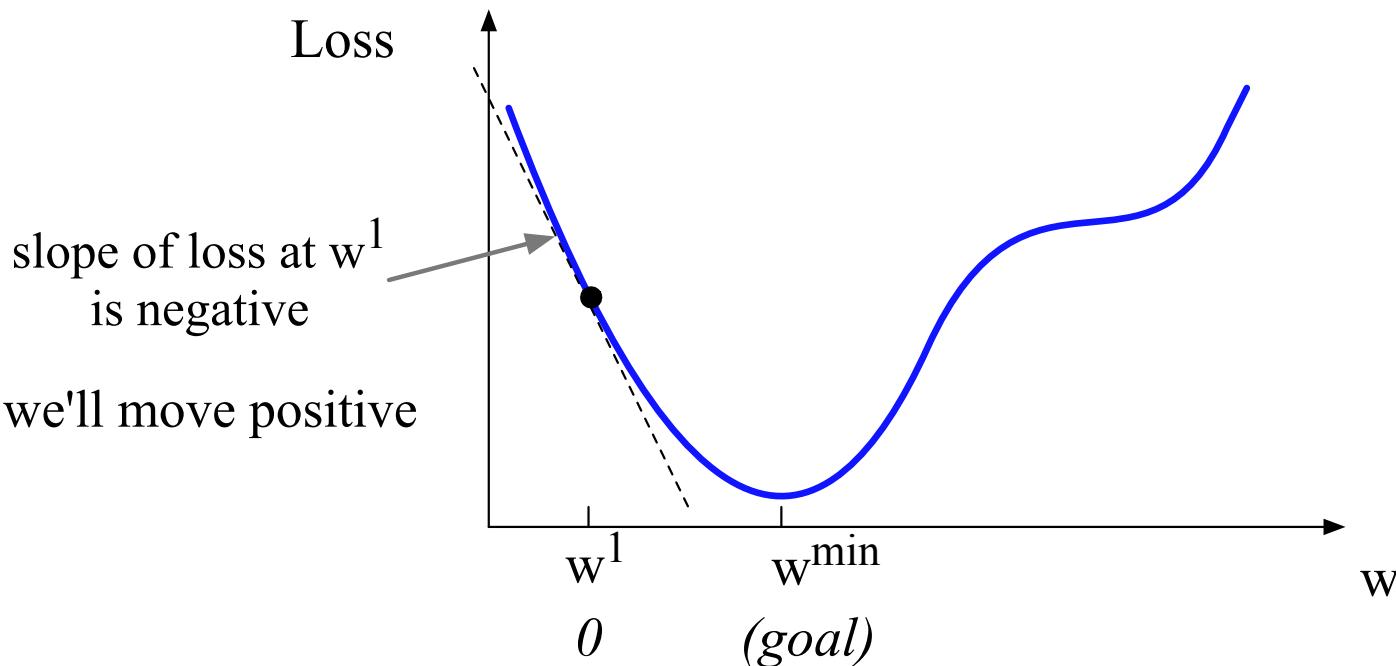
A: Move  $w$  in the reverse direction from the slope of the function



# Let's first visualize for a single scalar $w$

Q: Given current  $w$ , should we make it bigger or smaller?

A: Move  $w$  in the reverse direction from the slope of the function

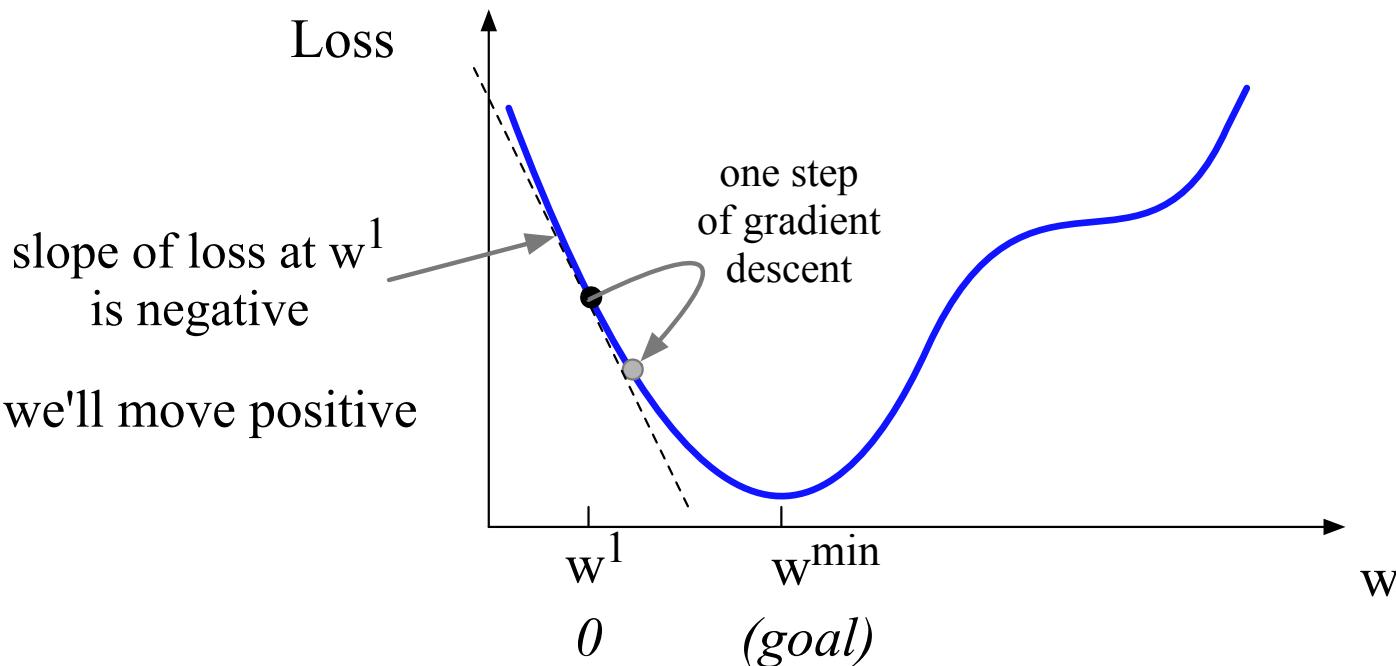


So we'll move positive

# Let's first visualize for a single scalar $w$

Q: Given current  $w$ , should we make it bigger or smaller?

A: Move  $w$  in the reverse direction from the slope of the function



# Gradients

The **gradient** of a function of many variables is a vector pointing in the direction of the greatest increase in a function.

**Gradient Descent:** Find the gradient of the loss function at the current point and move in the **opposite** direction.

# How much do we move in that direction ?

- The value of the gradient (slope in our example)  $\frac{d}{dw} L(f(x; w), y)$  weighted by a **learning rate**  $\eta$
- Higher learning rate means move  $w$  faster

$$w^{t+1} = w^t - \eta \frac{d}{dw} L(f(x; w), y)$$

# Now let's consider N dimensions

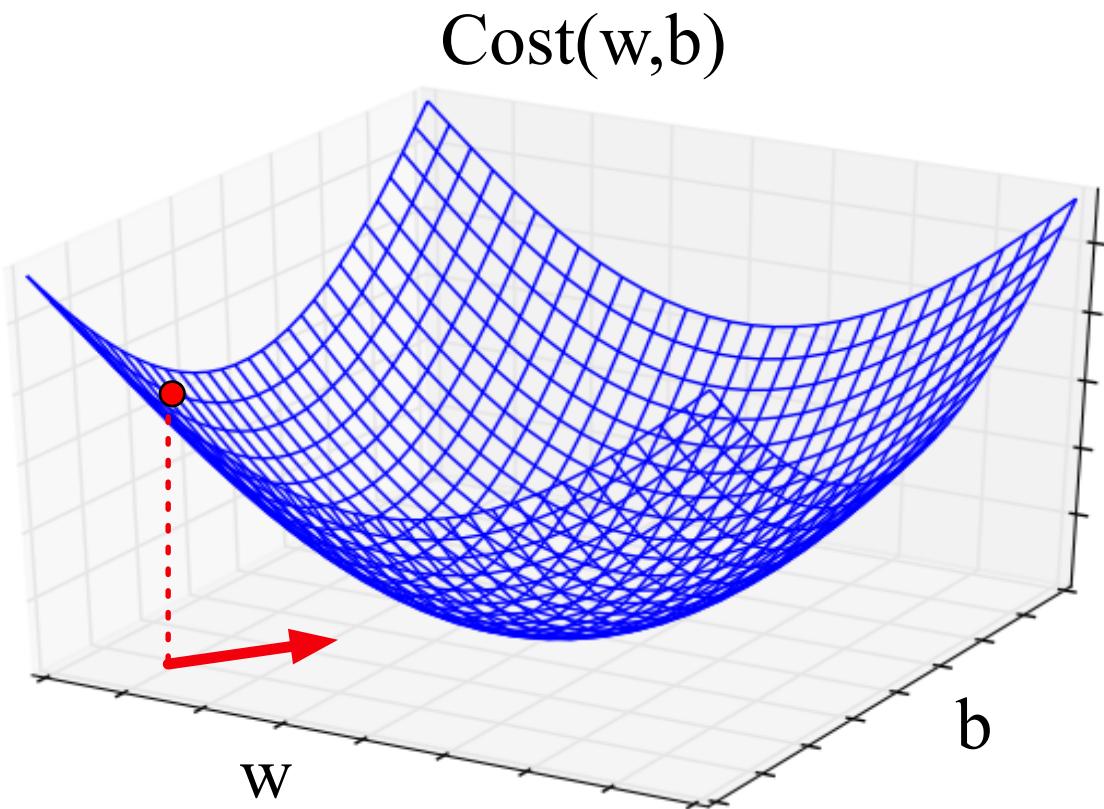
We want to know where in the  $N$ -dimensional space (of the  $N$  parameters that make up  $\theta$ ) we should move.

The gradient is just such a vector; it expresses the directional components of the sharpest slope along each of the  $N$  dimensions.

# Imagine 2 dimensions, w and b

Visualizing the gradient vector at the red point

It has two dimensions shown in the x-y plane



# Real gradients

Are much longer; lots and lots of weights

For each dimension  $w_i$ , the gradient component  $i$  tells us the slope with respect to that variable.

- “How much would a small change in  $w_i$  influence the total loss function  $L$ ? ”
- We express the slope as a partial derivative  $\partial$  of the loss  $\partial w_i$ ,

The gradient is then defined as a vector of these partials.

# The gradient

We'll represent  $\hat{y}$  as  $f(x; \theta)$  to make the dependence on  $\theta$  more obvious:

$$\nabla_{\theta} L(f(x; \theta), y) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_1} L(f(x; \theta), y) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial w_2} L(f(x; \theta), y) \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial w_n} L(f(x; \theta), y) \end{bmatrix}$$

The final equation for updating  $\theta$  based on the gradient is thus

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \nabla L(f(x; \theta), y)$$

# What are these partial derivatives for logistic regression?

The loss function

$$L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y) = -[y \log \sigma(w \cdot x + b) + (1 - y) \log (1 - \sigma(w \cdot x + b))]$$

The elegant derivative of this function (see textbook 5.8 for derivation)

$$\frac{\partial L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y)}{\partial w_j} = [\sigma(w \cdot x + b) - y]x_j$$

```

function STOCHASTIC GRADIENT DESCENT( $L()$ ,  $f()$ ,  $x$ ,  $y$ ) returns  $\theta$ 
    # where: L is the loss function
    #      f is a function parameterized by  $\theta$ 
    #      x is the set of training inputs  $x^{(1)}$ ,  $x^{(2)}$ , ...,  $x^{(m)}$ 
    #      y is the set of training outputs (labels)  $y^{(1)}$ ,  $y^{(2)}$ , ...,  $y^{(m)}$ 

```

$\theta \leftarrow 0$

**repeat** til done

For each training tuple  $(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$  (in random order)

1. Optional (for reporting):      # How are we doing on this tuple?  
 Compute  $\hat{y}^{(i)} = f(x^{(i)}; \theta)$       # What is our estimated output  $\hat{y}$ ?  
 Compute the loss  $L(\hat{y}^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$       # How far off is  $\hat{y}^{(i)}$  from the true output  $y^{(i)}$ ?
2.  $g \leftarrow \nabla_{\theta} L(f(x^{(i)}; \theta), y^{(i)})$       # How should we move  $\theta$  to maximize loss?  
 3.  $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \eta g$       # Go the other way instead

return  $\theta$

# Hyperparameters

The learning rate  $\eta$  is a **hyperparameter**

- too high: the learner will take big steps and overshoot
- too low: the learner will take too long

Hyperparameters:

- Briefly, a special kind of parameter for an ML model
- Instead of being learned by algorithm from supervision (like regular parameters), they are chosen by algorithm designer.

# Stochastic Gradient Descent

## Logistic Regression

# Logistic Regression

## Stochastic Gradient Descent: An example and more details

# Working through an example

One step of gradient descent

A mini-sentiment example, where the true  $y=1$  (positive)

Two features:

$x_1 = 3$  (count of positive lexicon words)

$x_2 = 2$  (count of negative lexicon words)

Assume 3 parameters (2 weights and 1 bias) in  $\Theta^0$  are zero:

$$w_1 = w_2 = b = 0$$

$$\eta = 0.1$$

# Example of gradient descent

$$w_1 = w_2 = b = 0; \\ x_1 = 3; \quad x_2 = 2$$

Update step for update  $\theta$  is:

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \nabla L(f(x; \theta), y)$$

where  $\frac{\partial L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y)}{\partial w_j} = [\sigma(w \cdot x + b) - y]x_j$

Gradient vector has 3 dimensions:

$$\nabla_{w,b} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y)}{\partial w_1} \\ \frac{\partial L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y)}{\partial w_2} \\ \frac{\partial L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y)}{\partial b} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Example of gradient descent

$$w_1 = w_2 = b = 0; \\ x_1 = 3; \quad x_2 = 2$$

Update step for update  $\theta$  is:

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \nabla L(f(x; \theta), y)$$

where  $\frac{\partial L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y)}{\partial w_j} = [\sigma(w \cdot x + b) - y]x_j$

Gradient vector has 3 dimensions:

$$\nabla_{w,b} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y)}{\partial w_1} \\ \frac{\partial L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y)}{\partial w_2} \\ \frac{\partial L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y)}{\partial b} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \quad \\ \quad \\ \quad \end{bmatrix}$$

# Example of gradient descent

$$w_1 = w_2 = b = 0; \\ x_1 = 3; \quad x_2 = 2$$

Update step for update  $\theta$  is:

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \nabla L(f(x; \theta), y)$$

where  $\frac{\partial L_{\text{CE}}(\hat{y}, y)}{\partial w_j} = [\sigma(w \cdot x + b) - y]x_j$

Gradient vector has 3 dimensions:

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Note that enough negative examples would eventually make  $w_2$  negative

# Mini-batch training

Stochastic gradient descent chooses a single random example at a time.

That can result in choppy movements

More common to compute gradient over batches of training instances.

**Batch training:** entire dataset

**Mini-batch training:**  $m$  examples (512, or 1024)

# Regularization

## Logistic Regression

# Overfitting

A model that perfectly match the training data has a problem.

It will also **overfit** to the data, modeling noise

- A random word that perfectly predicts  $y$  (it happens to only occur in one class) will get a very high weight.
- Failing to generalize to a test set without this word.

A good model should be able to **generalize**

# Overfitting

Models that are too powerful can **overfit** the data

- Fitting the details of the training data so exactly that the model doesn't generalize well to the test set
- How to avoid overfitting?
  - Regularization in logistic regression
  - Dropout in neural networks

# Regularization

A solution for overfitting

Add a regularization term  $R(\theta)$  to the loss function  
(for now written as maximizing logprob rather than minimizing loss)

$$\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^m \log P(y^{(i)} | x^{(i)}) - \alpha R(\theta)$$

Idea: choose an  $R(\theta)$  that penalizes large weights

- fitting the data well with lots of big weights not as good as fitting the data a little less well, with small weights

# L2 Regularization (= ridge regression)

The sum of the squares of the weights

The name is because this is the (square of the)  
**L2 norm**  $\|\theta\|_2$ , = **Euclidean distance** of  $\theta$  to the origin.

$$R(\theta) = \|\theta\|_2^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n \theta_j^2$$

L2 regularized objective function:

$$\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^m \log P(y^{(i)} | x^{(i)}) \right] - \alpha \sum_{j=1}^n \theta_j^2$$

# L1 Regularization (= lasso regression)

The sum of the (absolute value of the) weights

Named after the **L1 norm**  $\|W\|_1$ , = sum of the absolute values of the weights, = **Manhattan distance**

$$R(\theta) = \|\theta\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\theta_i|$$

L1 regularized objective function:

$$\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^m \log P(y^{(i)} | x^{(i)}) \right] - \alpha \sum_{j=1}^n |\theta_j|$$

# Logistic Regression

# Multinomial Logistic Regression

# Multinomial Logistic Regression

Often we need more than 2 classes

- Positive/negative/neutral
- Parts of speech (noun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition, etc.)
- Classify emergency SMSs into different actionable classes

If >2 classes we use **multinomial logistic regression**

- = Softmax regression
- = Multinomial logit
- = (defunct names : Maximum entropy modeling or MaxEnt

So "logistic regression" will just mean binary (2 output classes)

Recall that the cross-entropy loss for binary logistic regression

$$\text{LCE}(\hat{y}, y) = -\log(y|x) = -[y \log \hat{y} + (1-y) \log(1-\hat{y})]$$

$$= -\sum_{k=1}^2 y_k \log \hat{y}_k = -\log \hat{y}_c \quad (\text{where } c \text{ is the true class})$$

The loss function for multinomial logistic regression

$$\text{LCE}(\hat{y}, y) = -\sum_{k=1}^K y_k \log \hat{y}_k \quad (\text{where there are } K \text{ classes})$$

$$= -\log \hat{y}_c \quad (\text{where } c \text{ is the true class})$$

$$= -\log P(y=c|x)$$

# Multinomial Logistic Regression

The probability of everything must still sum to 1

$$P(\text{positive} \mid \text{doc}) + P(\text{negative} \mid \text{doc}) + P(\text{neutral} \mid \text{doc}) = 1$$

Need a generalization of the sigmoid called the **softmax**

- Takes a vector  $z = [z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k]$  of  $k$  arbitrary values
- Outputs a probability distribution
  - each value in the range  $[0,1]$
  - all the values summing to 1

# The softmax function

Turns a vector  $z = [z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k]$  of  $k$  arbitrary values into probabilities

$$\text{softmax}(z_i) = \frac{\exp(z_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^k \exp(z_j)} \quad 1 \leq i \leq k$$

The denominator  $\sum_{i=1}^k e^{z_i}$  is used to normalize all the values into probabilities.

$$\text{softmax}(z) = \left[ \frac{\exp(z_1)}{\sum_{i=1}^k \exp(z_i)}, \frac{\exp(z_2)}{\sum_{i=1}^k \exp(z_i)}, \dots, \frac{\exp(z_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^k \exp(z_i)} \right]$$

# The softmax function

- Turns a vector  $z = [z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k]$  of  $k$  arbitrary values into probabilities

$$z = [0.6, 1.1, -1.5, 1.2, 3.2, -1.1]$$

$$\text{softmax}(z) = \left[ \frac{\exp(z_1)}{\sum_{i=1}^k \exp(z_i)}, \frac{\exp(z_2)}{\sum_{i=1}^k \exp(z_i)}, \dots, \frac{\exp(z_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^k \exp(z_i)} \right]$$

$$[0.055, 0.090, 0.0067, 0.10, 0.74, 0.010]$$

# Softmax in multinomial logistic regression

$$p(y = c|x) = \frac{\exp(w_c \cdot x + b_c)}{\sum_{j=1}^k \exp(w_j \cdot x + b_j)}$$

Input is still the dot product between weight vector  $w$  and input vector  $x$

But now we'll need separate weight vectors for each of the  $K$  classes.

for gradient descent we don't need the loss, we need its gradient. The gradient for a single example turns out to be very similar to the gradient for binary logistic regression,  $(\hat{y} - y)x$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial L_{\text{CE}}}{\partial w_{k,i}} &= -(y_k - \hat{y}_k)x_i \\ &= -(y_k - p(y_k = 1|x))x_i \\ &= -\left(y_k - \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w}_k \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^K \exp(\mathbf{w}_j \cdot \mathbf{x} + b_j)}\right)x_i\end{aligned}$$

# Logistic Regression

# Multinomial Logistic Regression