



# Classification: Naive Bayes and Logistic Regression

Natural Language Processing: Jordan  
Boyd-Graber

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Slides adapted from Hinrich Schütze and Lauren Hannah

## By the end of today ...

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- You'll be able to frame many standard nlp tasks as classification problems
- Apply logistic regression (given weights) to classify data
- Learn naïve bayes from data

## Outline

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- 1 Classification**
- 2 Logistic Regression
- 3 Logistic Regression Example
- 4 Motivating Naïve Bayes Example
- 5 Naive Bayes Definition
- 6 Wrapup

## Formal definition of Classification

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Given:

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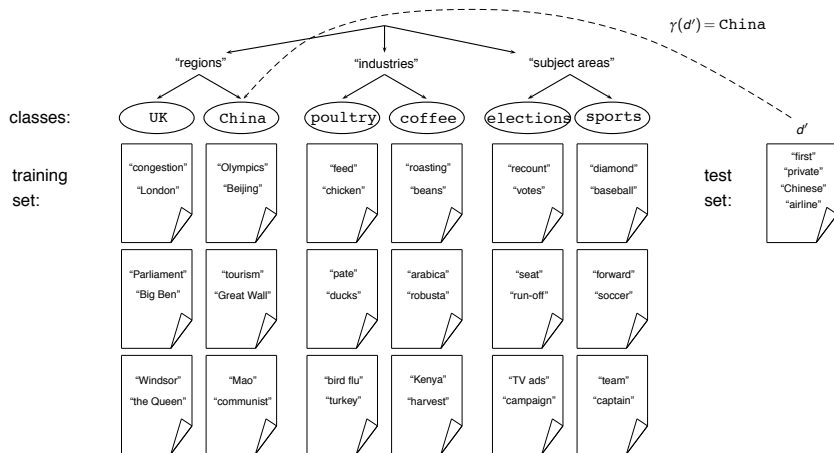
Given:

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- A training set  $D$  of labeled documents with each labeled document  $d \in \mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{C}$

Using a learning method or learning algorithm, we then wish to learn a classifier  $\gamma$  that maps documents to classes:

$$\gamma : \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

## Topic classification



## Examples of how search engines use classification

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- Standing queries (e.g., Google Alerts)
- Language identification (classes: English vs. French etc.)
- The automatic detection of spam pages (spam vs. nonspam)
- The automatic detection of sexually explicit content (sexually explicit vs. not)
- Sentiment detection: is a movie or product review positive or negative (positive vs. negative)
- Topic-specific or *vertical* search – restrict search to a “vertical” like “related to health” (relevant to vertical vs. not)

## Classification methods: 1. Manual

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- Manual classification was used by Yahoo in the beginning of the web.  
Also: ODP, PubMed
- Very accurate if job is done by experts
- Consistent when the problem size and team is small
- Scaling manual classification is difficult and expensive.
- → We need automatic methods for classification.

## Classification methods: 2. Rule-based

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- There are “IDE” type development environments for writing very complex rules efficiently. (e.g., Verity)
- Often: Boolean combinations (as in Google Alerts)
- Accuracy is very high if a rule has been carefully refined over time by a subject expert.
- Building and maintaining rule-based classification systems is expensive.

## Classification methods: 3. Statistical/Probabilistic

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- As per our definition of the classification problem – text classification as a learning problem
- Supervised learning of a the classification function  $\gamma$  and its application to classifying new documents
- We will look at a couple of methods for doing this: Naive Bayes, Logistic Regression, SVM, Decision Trees
- No free lunch: requires hand-classified training data
- But this manual classification can be done by non-experts.

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## Generative vs. Discriminative Models

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- Goal, given observation  $x$ , compute probability of label  $y$ ,  $p(y|x)$
- Naïve Bayes (later) uses Bayes rule to reverse conditioning
- What if we care about  $p(y|x)$ ? We need a more general framework . . .



## Generative vs. Discriminative Models

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- Goal, given observation  $x$ , compute probability of label  $y$ ,  $p(y|x)$
- Naïve Bayes (later) uses Bayes rule to reverse conditioning
- What if we care about  $p(y|x)$ ? We need a more general framework ...
- That framework is called logistic regression
  - Logistic: A special mathematical function it uses
  - Regression: Combines a weight vector with observations to create an answer
  - More general cookbook for building conditional probability distributions
- Naïve Bayes (later today) is a special case of logistic regression

## Logistic Regression: Definition

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- Weight vector  $\beta_i$
- Observations  $X_i$
- “Bias”  $\beta_0$  (like intercept in linear regression)

$$P(Y = 0|X) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[\beta_0 + \sum_i \beta_i X_i]} \quad (1)$$

$$P(Y = 1|X) = \frac{\exp[\beta_0 + \sum_i \beta_i X_i]}{1 + \exp[\beta_0 + \sum_i \beta_i X_i]} \quad (2)$$

- For shorthand, we'll say that

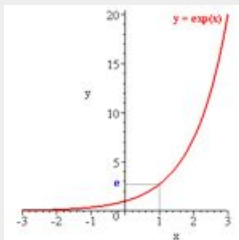
$$P(Y = 0|X) = \sigma(-(\beta_0 + \sum_i \beta_i X_i)) \quad (3)$$

$$P(Y = 1|X) = 1 - \sigma(-(\beta_0 + \sum_i \beta_i X_i)) \quad (4)$$

- Where  $\sigma(z) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-z]}$

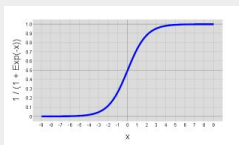
## What's this “exp”?

### Exponential



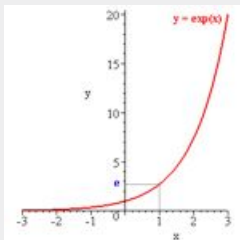
- $\exp[x]$  is shorthand for  $e^x$
- $e$  is a special number, about 2.71828
  - $e^x$  is the limit of compound interest formula as compounds become infinitely small
  - It's the function whose derivative is itself
- The “logistic” function is  $\sigma(z) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-z}}$
- Looks like an “S”
- Always between 0 and 1.

### Logistic



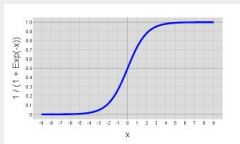
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- The “logistic” function is  $\sigma(z) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-z}}$
- Looks like an “S”
- Always between 0 and 1.
  - Allows us to model probabilities
  - Different from **linear** regression

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## Logistic Regression Example

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feature	coefficient	weight
bias	$\beta_0$	0.1
“viagra”	$\beta_1$	2.0
“mother”	$\beta_2$	-1.0
“work”	$\beta_3$	-0.5
“nigeria”	$\beta_4$	3.0

- What does  $Y = 1$  mean?

### Example 1: Empty Document?

$X = \{\}$

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- $P(Y = 0) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[0.1]} = 0.48$
- $P(Y = 1) = \frac{\exp[0.1]}{1 + \exp[0.1]} = .52$
- Bias  $\beta_0$  encodes the prior probability of a class



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$X = \{\text{Mother, Nigeria}\}$

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- $P(Y = 1) = \frac{\exp[0.1 - 1.0 + 3.0]}{1 + \exp[0.1 - 1.0 + 3.0]} =$
- Include bias, and sum the other weights

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$X = \{\text{Mother, Nigeria}\}$

- $$P(Y = 0) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[0.1 - 1.0 + 3.0]} = 0.11$$
- $$P(Y = 1) = \frac{\exp[0.1 - 1.0 + 3.0]}{1 + \exp[0.1 - 1.0 + 3.0]} = .88$$
- Include bias, and sum the other weights

## Logistic Regression Example

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- Multiply feature presence by weight

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### Example 3

$X = \{\text{Mother, Work, Viagra, Mother}\}$

- $$P(Y = 0) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[0.1 - 1.0 - 0.5 + 2.0 - 1.0]} = 0.60$$
- $$P(Y = 1) = \frac{\exp[0.1 - 1.0 - 0.5 + 2.0 - 1.0]}{1 + \exp[0.1 - 1.0 - 0.5 + 2.0 - 1.0]} = 0.30$$
- Multiply feature presence by weight

## How is Logistic Regression Used?

---

- Given a set of weights  $\vec{\beta}$ , we know how to compute the conditional likelihood  $P(y|\beta, x)$
- Find the set of weights  $\vec{\beta}$  that maximize the conditional likelihood on training data (where  $y$  is known)
- A subset of a more general class of methods called “maximum entropy” models (next week)
- **Intuition:** higher weights mean that this feature implies that this feature is a good this is the class you want for this observation

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- A subset of a more general class of methods called “maximum entropy” models (next week)
- **Intuition:** higher weights mean that this feature implies that this feature is a good this is the class you want for this observation
- Naïve Bayes is a special case of logistic regression that uses Bayes rule and conditional probabilities to set these weights



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## A Classification Problem

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- Suppose that I have two coins,  $C_1$  and  $C_2$
- Now suppose I pull a coin out of my pocket, flip it a bunch of times, record the coin and outcomes, and repeat many times:

$C_1$ : 0 1 1 1 1

$C_1$ : 1 1 0

$C_2$ : 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1

$C_1$ : 0 1

$C_1$ : 1 1 0 1 1 1

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$C_2$ : 1 0 0 0

- Now suppose I am given a new sequence, 0 0 1; which coin is it from?

## A Classification Problem

---

This problem has particular challenges:

- different numbers of covariates for each observation
- number of covariates can be large

However, there is some structure:

- Easy to get  $P(C_1)$ ,  $P(C_2)$
- Also easy to get  $P(X_i = 1 | C_1)$  and  $P(X_i = 1 | C_2)$
- By conditional independence,

$$P(X = 010 | C_1) = P(X_1 = 0 | C_1)P(X_2 = 1 | C_1)P(X_3 = 0 | C_1)$$

- Can we use these to get  $P(C_1 | X = 001)$ ?

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- Also easy to get  $P(X_i = 1 | C_1) = 12/16$  and  $P(X_i = 1 | C_2) = 6/18$
- By conditional independence,

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## A Classification Problem

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Summary: have  $P(data|class)$ , want  $P(class|data)$

Solution: Bayes' rule!

$$\begin{aligned} P(class|data) &= \frac{P(data|class)P(class)}{P(data)} \\ &= \frac{P(data|class)P(class)}{\sum_{class=1}^C P(data|class)P(class)} \end{aligned}$$

To compute, we need to estimate  $P(data|class)$ ,  $P(class)$  for all classes

## Naive Bayes Classifier

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This works because the coin flips are independent given the coin parameter.

What about this case:

- want to identify the type of fruit given a set of features: color, shape and size
- color: red, green, yellow or orange (discrete)
- shape: round, oval or long+skinny (discrete)
- size: diameter in inches (continuous)



## Naive Bayes Classifier

---

Conditioned on type of fruit, these features are not necessarily independent:



Given category “apple,” the color “green” has a higher probability given “size < 2”:

$$P(\text{green} \mid \text{size} < 2, \text{apple}) > P(\text{green} \mid \text{apple})$$



## Naive Bayes Classifier

---

Using chain rule,

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{apple} | \text{green}, \text{round}, \text{size} = 2) \\ &= \frac{P(\text{green}, \text{round}, \text{size} = 2 | \text{apple}) P(\text{apple})}{\sum_{\text{fruits}} P(\text{green}, \text{round}, \text{size} = 2 | \text{fruit } j) P(\text{fruit } j)} \\ &\propto P(\text{green} | \text{round}, \text{size} = 2, \text{apple}) P(\text{round} | \text{size} = 2, \text{apple}) \\ &\quad \times P(\text{size} = 2 | \text{apple}) P(\text{apple}) \end{aligned}$$

But computing conditional probabilities is hard! There are many combinations of (*color*, *shape*, *size*) for each fruit.

## Naive Bayes Classifier

---

Idea: assume conditional independence for all features given class,

$$P(\text{green} | \text{round}, \text{size} = 2, \text{apple}) = P(\text{green} | \text{apple})$$

$$P(\text{round} | \text{green}, \text{size} = 2, \text{apple}) = P(\text{round} | \text{apple})$$

$$P(\text{size} = 2 | \text{green}, \text{round}, \text{apple}) = P(\text{size} = 2 | \text{apple})$$

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## The Naive Bayes classifier

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- The Naive Bayes classifier is a probabilistic classifier.
- We compute the probability of a document  $d$  being in a class  $c$  as follows:

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- $n_d$  is the length of the document. (number of tokens)
- $P(w_i|c)$  is the conditional probability of term  $w_i$  occurring in a document of class  $c$
- $P(w_i|c)$  as a measure of how much evidence  $w_i$  contributes that  $c$  is the correct class.
- $P(c)$  is the prior probability of  $c$ .
- If a document's terms do not provide clear evidence for one class vs. another, we choose the  $c$  with higher  $P(c)$ .

## Maximum a posteriori class

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- Our goal is to find the “best” class.
- The best class in Naive Bayes classification is the most likely or *maximum a posteriori (MAP) class*  $c_{\text{map}}$  :

$$c_{\text{map}} = \arg \max_{c_j \in \mathbb{C}} \hat{P}(c_j|d) = \arg \max_{c_j \in \mathbb{C}} \hat{P}(c_j) \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n_d} \hat{P}(w_i|c_j)$$

- We write  $\hat{P}$  for  $P$  since these values are *estimates* from the training set.

## Naive Bayes Classifier

---

Why conditional independence?

- estimating multivariate functions (like  $P(X_1, \dots, X_m | Y)$ ) is mathematically hard, while estimating univariate ones is easier (like  $P(X_i | Y)$ )
- need less data to fit univariate functions well
- univariate estimators differ much less than multivariate estimator (low variance)
- ... but they may end up finding the wrong values (more bias)



## Naïve Bayes conditional independence assumption

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To reduce the number of parameters to a manageable size, recall the *Naïve Bayes conditional independence assumption*:

$$P(d|c_j) = P(\langle w_1, \dots, w_{n_d} \rangle | c_j) = \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n_d} P(X_i = w_i | c_j)$$

We assume that the probability of observing the conjunction of attributes is equal to the product of the individual probabilities  $P(X_i = w_i | c_j)$ .

Our estimates for these priors and conditional probabilities:  $\hat{P}(c_j) = \frac{N_c + 1}{N + |C|}$

and  $\hat{P}(w|c) = \frac{T_{cw} + 1}{(\sum_{w' \in V} T_{cw'}) + |V|}$

## Implementation Detail: Taking the log

---

- Multiplying lots of small probabilities can result in floating point underflow.
- From last time  $\lg$  is logarithm base 2;  $\ln$  is logarithm base  $e$ .

$$\lg x = a \Leftrightarrow 2^a = x \quad \ln x = a \Leftrightarrow e^a = x \quad (5)$$

- Since  $\ln(xy) = \ln(x) + \ln(y)$ , we can sum log probabilities instead of multiplying probabilities.
- Since  $\ln$  is a monotonic function, the class with the highest score does not change.
- So what we usually compute in practice is:

$$c_{\text{map}} = \arg \max_{c_j \in \mathbb{C}} [\hat{P}(c_j) \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n_d} \hat{P}(w_i | c_j)]$$

$$\arg \max_{c_j \in \mathbb{C}} [\ln \hat{P}(c_j) + \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n_d} \ln \hat{P}(w_i | c_j)]$$

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## Equivalence of Naïve Bayes and Logistic Regression

Consider Naïve Bayes and logistic regression with two classes: (+) and (-).

### Naïve Bayes

$$\hat{P}(c_+) \prod_i \hat{P}(w_i|c_+)$$

$$\hat{P}(c_-) \prod_i \hat{P}(w_i|c_-)$$

### Logistic Regression

$$\sigma \left( -\beta_0 - \sum_i \beta_i X_i \right) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp \left( \beta_0 + \sum_i \beta_i X_i \right)}$$

$$1 - \sigma \left( -\beta_0 - \sum_i \beta_i X_i \right) = \frac{\exp \left( \beta_0 + \sum_i \beta_i X_i \right)}{1 + \exp \left( \beta_0 + \sum_i \beta_i X_i \right)}$$

- These are actually the same if

$$w_0 = \sigma \left( \ln \left( \frac{p(c_+)}{1-p(c_+)} \right) + \sum_j \ln \left( \frac{1-P(w_j|c_+)}{1-P(w_j|c_-)} \right) \right)$$

- and  $w_j = \ln \left( \frac{P(w_j|c_+)(1-P(w_j|c_-))}{P(w_j|c_-)(1-P(w_j|c_+))} \right)$

## Contrasting Naïve Bayes and Logistic Regression

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- Naïve Bayes easier
- Naïve Bayes better on smaller datasets
- Logistic regression better on medium-sized datasets
- On huge datasets, it doesn't really matter (data always win)
  - Optional reading by Ng and Jordan has proofs and experiments
- Logistic regression allows arbitrary features (biggest difference!)

## Contrasting Naïve Bayes and Logistic Regression

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  - Optional reading by Ng and Jordan has proofs and experiments
- Logistic regression allows arbitrary features (biggest difference!)
- Don't need to memorize (or work through) previous slide—just understand that naïve Bayes is a special case of logistic regression



## In class

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## Next time ...

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- Maximum Entropy: Mathematical foundations to logistic regression
- How to learn the best setting of weights
- Extracting features from words