Machine Learning Methods for Gene Expression Data

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# Machine Learning Methods for Gene Expression Data

Day 2

Dennis Wylie, UT Bioinformatics Consulting Group

May 21, 2016

#### Outline

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- 1 Classification
- 2 k-Nearest Neighbors
- 3 Overfitting
- 4 Cross-Validation
- 5 Performance Metrics
- 6 Feature Selection

#### What is a classifier?

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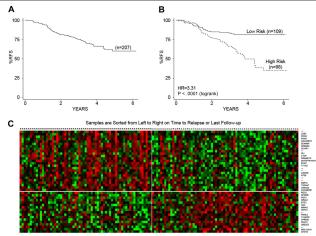
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A 38-gene expression classifier predictive of relapse-free survival (RFS) could distinguish 2 groups with differing relapse risks: low (4-year RFS, 81%, n = 109) versus high (4-year RFS, 50%, n = 98; P < .001).

Taken from Kang et al. (2010).

### Classification by gene expression

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#### ${\sf Classification}$

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#### Goal:

Given sample i, use measured gene expression levels  $x_{ig} \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $g \in \{1, \dots, p\}$  to assign class label  $y_i$ .

Use vector notation  $\mathbf{x}_i$  to represent collection of all gene measurements  $x_{ig}$  for sample i.

To keep things simple, consider only two-class problems (say, "low-risk" vs. "high-risk") so that  $y_i \in \{0,1\}$ .

Define random variables X and Y of which  $x_i$  and  $y_i$  will be regarded as particular realizations.

Model should yield  $\mathbb{P}(Y = y \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) \dots$ 

### Training and test sets

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Select modeling strategy M and apply algorithm to find parameters  $\theta$  using a set  $S_{\text{train}}$  of samples such that

$$\mathbb{P}_{M,\theta}(Y=y_i\mid \mathbf{X}=\mathbf{x}_i)$$

has high probability for the observed class labels  $y_i$  for  $i \in S_{\mathsf{train}}$ .

### Training and test sets

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has high probability for the observed class labels  $y_i$  for  $i \in S_{\mathsf{train}}$ .

However, what we really want is for model to accurately classify samples  $j \notin S_{\text{train}}$  whose true classifications  $y_j$  may not already be known.

Generally  $(M, \theta)$  will not perform as well on samples  $j \notin S_{\text{train}}$  as it does on  $i \in S_{\text{train}}$ .

Thus useful to apply  $(M, \theta)$  to  $j \in S_{\text{test}}$  where  $S_{\text{test}} \cap S_{\text{train}} = \emptyset$  but where the  $\{y_j \mid j \in S_{\text{test}}\}$  are still known.

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Perhaps simplest approach to classification:

#### *k*-nearest neighbors

Given vector  $\mathbf{x}$  of feature values (e.g., expression counts  $x_g$  for selected genes g) with k nearest training vectors

$$\{\mathbf{x}_j \mid j \in \mathsf{NN}_k\},\$$

with  $\|\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}\| \le \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}\|$  if  $j \in NN_k$  and  $i \notin NN_k$ :

$$\mathbb{P}(Y=1 \mid X=x) = \frac{1}{|\mathsf{NN}_k|} \sum_{j \in \mathsf{NN}_k} y_j$$

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As long as there is natural metric on feature space, this method has a lot to recommend it in low-dimensional settings.

*k*-nearest-neighbors is implemented as:

R class::knn

Python sklearn.neighbors.KNeighborsClassifier

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```
# R:
knnTest = knn(
    train = xtrain,
    test = xtest,
    cl = ytrain,
    k = 3
)
nCorrect = sum(diag(table(knnTest, ytest)))
```

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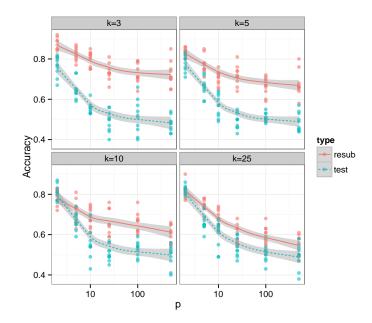
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# knn and the curse of dimensionality

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Volume of p-dimensional hypersphere of radius r is

$$V_p(r) = rac{\pi^{p/2}}{\Gamma\left(rac{p}{2}+1
ight)} r^p \propto r^p$$

For x to have many neighbors nearer than r, must be many  $x_i \in S_{\text{train}}$  in volume  $V_p(r)$  centered at x.

# knn and the curse of dimensionality

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If the dimensionality p is large and r is small, this is very unlikely.

So must use points far away to guess what's going on at x.

Not surprisingly this doesn't always work . . .

# knn and the curse of dimensionality

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If the dimensionality p is large and r is small, this is very unlikely.

So must use points far away to guess what's going on at  $\mathbf{x}$ .

Not surprisingly this doesn't always work . . .

May be better to do feature selection or feature extraction and then fit model using reduced feature set (will return to this idea later).

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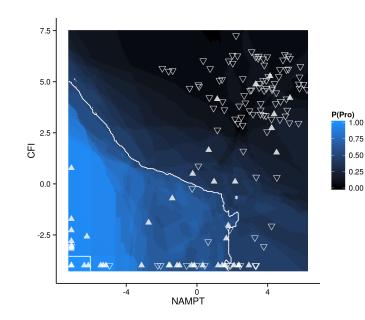
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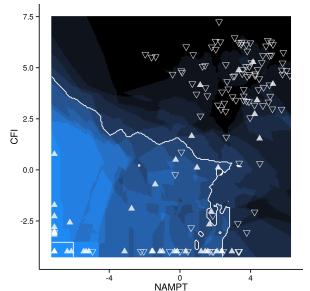
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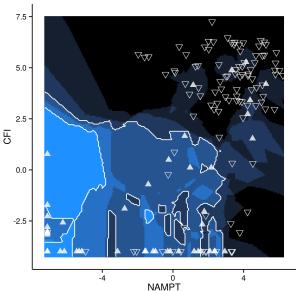
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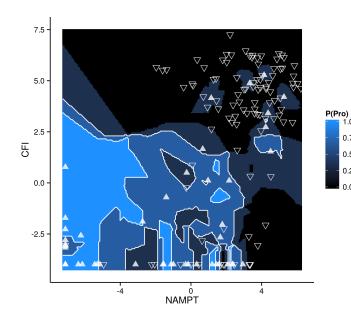
Feature





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#### Overfitting



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0.75

0.50 0.25

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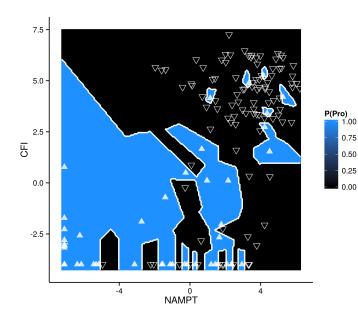
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# Cross-Validation (CV)

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Have seen that evaluating performance by resubstitution suffers from bias.

But what if we don't have a test set  $S_{\text{test}}$  lying around?

# Cross-Validation (CV)

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Have seen that evaluating performance by resubstitution suffers from bias.

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Can always split whatever sample set you have up into a test and training set.

# Cross-Validation (CV)

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Have seen that evaluating performance by resubstitution suffers from bias.

But what if we don't have a test set  $S_{test}$  lying around?

Can always split whatever sample set you have up into a test and training set.

If not many samples available, might split samples S into  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  and then try:

- 1. first train M on  $S_1$  to obtain parametrized model  $(M, \theta_1)$  for testing on  $S_2$ ;
- 2. then train on  $S_2$  to obtain model  $(M, \theta_2)$  for testing on  $S_1$ .

Unbiased performance estimate could then be obtained using the predictions  $\mathbb{P}_{M,\theta_2}(Y \mid \mathbf{X})$  for samples in  $S_1$  and predictions  $\mathbb{P}_{M,\theta_1}(Y \mid \mathbf{X})$  for samples in  $S_2$ .

#### K-Fold Cross-Validation

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This procedure can be generalized to split S up into K subsets  $S_k$  for each of which:

- 1. a model  $(M, heta_{\text{-}k})$  is trained using training set  $S_{\text{-}k} = \bigcup_{q \neq k} S_q$
- 2. predictions  $\mathbb{P}_{M,\theta_{-k}}(Y \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}_i)$  are made for samples  $i \in S_k$
- 3. performance estimates are made for each  $S_k$  based on  $\mathbb{P}_{M,\theta_{-k}}(Y \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}_i)$  and then averaged over all K folds.

#### K-Fold Cross-Validation

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- 2. predictions  $\mathbb{P}_{M,\theta_{-k}}(Y\mid \mathbf{X}=\mathbf{x}_i)$  are made for samples  $i\in\mathcal{S}_k$
- 3. performance estimates are made for each  $S_k$  based on  $\mathbb{P}_{M,\theta_{-k}}(Y \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}_i)$  and then averaged over all K folds.

#### Very important:

Cross-validation is only valid if all *supervised* steps performed in building a classification model are conducted separately in each of the k folds.

#### 5-Fold Cross-Validation

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```
# R:
library(caret)
knnCV = train(
    x = xtrain,
    y = ytrain,
    method = "knn",
    tuneGrid = data.frame(k=3),
    trControl = trainControl(method="cv", number=5)
)
cvAccuracyEstimate = knnCV$results[, "Accuracy"]
```

#### # Python:

### 5-Fold Cross-Validation

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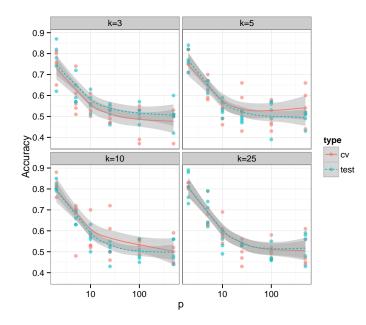
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#### Metrics—Binomial

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References

There are many ways to measure performance for classifiers; most are based only on the "discretized calls"  $\hat{y}$ 

$$\hat{y}_{\mathcal{M}, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \psi} = egin{cases} 1 & ext{if } \mathbb{P}_{\mathcal{M}, \boldsymbol{\theta}}(Y = 1 \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) \geq \psi \\ 0 & ext{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

given some threshold  $\psi$  (e.g.,  $\psi =$  0.5).

### Metrics—Binomial

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There are many ways to measure performance for classifiers; most are based only on the "discretized calls"  $\hat{y}$ 

$$\hat{y}_{M,\theta,\psi} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mathbb{P}_{M,\theta}(Y=1 \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) \geq \psi \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

given some threshold  $\psi$  (e.g.,  $\psi = 0.5$ ).

Given a sample set S of size |S| = N composed of:

**TP** true positive samples:  $y = \hat{y} = 1$ 

**TN** true negative samples:  $y = \hat{y} = 0$ 

**FP** false positive samples: y = 0,  $\hat{y} = 1$ 

**FN** false negative samples: y = 1,  $\hat{y} = 0$ ,

define

Accuracy fraction of calls correct  $\left(\frac{TP+TN}{N}\right)$ 

Sensitivity fraction of calls correct when y = 1  $\left(\frac{TP}{TP + FN}\right)$ 

Specificity fraction of calls correct when y = 0  $\left(\frac{TN}{TN+FP}\right)$ PPV fraction of calls correct when  $\hat{y} = 1$   $\left(\frac{TN}{TP+FP}\right)$ 

NPV fraction of calls correct when  $\hat{y} = 0 \left( \frac{TN}{TN + FN} \right)$ .

# Metrics—Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC)

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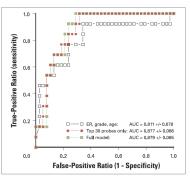


Fig 3. Receiver operating characteristic curves of three distinct pathologic complete response prediction models. The performance of the Diagonal Linear Discriminant Analysis—30 predictor and a predictor based on clinical variables and a combined clinical + pharmacogenomic prediction model are shown in the validation set (in = 51). ER, extogen receptor, VALC, area under the curve.

Taken from Hess et al. (2006).

Could consider binomial metrics over range of threshold values  $\psi$ .

Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve does this for sensitivity and specificity.

Area under ROC curve (AUC) = probability that score  $\mathbb{P}(Y=1 \mid \mathbf{X}=\mathbf{x})$  of a randomly chosen positive case (y=1) is higher than score of a randomly chosen negative case (y=0).

#### Feature selection

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Generally assumed that expression patterns of most genes are either:

- 1. uninformative or
- 2. contain only information redundant with a small number of maximally useful markers

with respect to a particular classification task.

**Feature selection** attempts to identify optimal set of markers for inclusion in classifier.

Not all modeling techniques absolutely require upfront feature selection but the resulting simplification:

- 1. reduces computational workload,
- 2. can help to avoid overfitting (though feature selection can itself be susceptible to overfitting), and
- 3. facilitates model platform migration.

### Taxonomy (adapted from Saeys et al. (2007))

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Filter Selection done before and independently of classifier construction. Can be univariate or multivariate.

Wrapper Embed classifier construction within feature selection process. Heuristic search methods compare models, favor adding or removing features based on optimization of some specified metric on resulting classifiers.

**Embedded** Feature selection is inherently built into some classifier construction methods.

### Taxonomy (adapted from Saeys et al. (2007))

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Category	Advantages	Disadvantages	Examples
	Univariate		
Filter	Fast Scalable Independent of classifier	- feature dependencies - interaction w/classifier	t-test, ANOVA Wilcox test Rank Product
	Multivariate		
	+ feature dependencies Independent of classifier Intermediate complexity	Slower Less Scalable - interaction $w/classifier$	CFS Markov Blanket Filter
	Deterministic		
Wrapper	Simple + interaction w/classifier + feature dependencies	Risk of over-fitting Greedy (local optima) Classifier dependent selec- tion	Forward Selection Backward Elimination Plus $q$ minus $r$
	Randomized		
-	Less prone to local optima + interaction w/classifier	High risk over-fitting Computationally intensive	Simulated Annealing Randomized Hill Climb- ing
	+ feature dependencies	Classifier dependent selection	Genetic Algorithms
Embedded	+ interaction w/classifier $+$ feature dependencies Intermediate complexity	No modularity Restrict algorithms	Decision trees Weighted Naive Bayes LASSO regression

### Linear Models for Univariate Feature Selection

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Most common univariate filter is *t*-test (or *F*-test if more than 2 groups) originating from model

$$\mathbb{P}(X_g = x \mid Y = y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_g^2}} \exp\left[\frac{(x - \mu_{yg})^2}{2\sigma_g^2}\right]$$

Note that we are now considering conditional probabilities of the  $X_g$  given Y . . .

...and that we are considering the various  $X_g$  separately ("univariate" analysis; not necessarily a very good approximation to reality, but at least a tractable one).

#### Linear Models

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Alternately, this model may be described by

$$X_g = \mu_{0g} + (\mu_{1g} - \mu_{0g})Y + \sigma_g \epsilon_g$$

with  $\epsilon_g \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$ , implying

$$\mathbb{E}(X_g \mid Y = y) = \mu_{yg}$$

$$\mathbb{V}(X_g \mid Y = y) = \sigma_g^2$$

Can then rank features based on  $|t_g|$  where:

$$t_{g} = rac{\hat{\mu}_{0g} - \hat{\mu}_{1g}}{\hat{\sigma}_{g}\sqrt{rac{1}{n_{0}} + rac{1}{n_{1}}}}$$

#### Linear Models

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While  $X_g$  is linear in Y here, it is linearity in  $\mu_{yg}$  that is generally implied by "linear model" in statistics.

# Linear Models

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While  $X_g$  is linear in Y here, it is linearity in  $\mu_{vg}$  that is generally implied by "linear model" in statistics.

We will see later that with a few modifications linear models can be good candidates for modeling Y based on X too.

# knn Accuracy With t-Test Feature Selection

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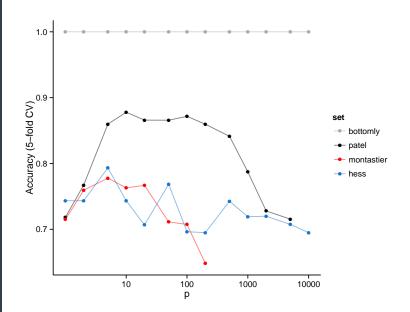
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