

# Notes 4-Linear Models for Classification

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We will discuss examples of all three approaches in this chapter which has been mention in charpter 1.

- Discriminant function: construct a discriminant function that directly assigns each vector  $\mathbf{x}$  to a specific class.
- Inference and decision: models the  $p(C_k|\mathbf{x})$  in an inference stage, and then uses this distribution to make optimal decisions.(discussed in 1.5.4). There are two approaches to determine the conditional probablity  $p(C_k|\mathbf{x})$ ,
  - Parameteric model: represent ithem as parameteric models and then optimizing the parameters using a training set.
  - Generative approach: model the class-conditional desities  $p(\mathbf{x}|C_k)$  and prior probablities  $p(C_k)$ , and then compute the required posterior probablities using Bayes' theorem.

Points:

- Representation of target vector: 1-of-K coding scheme where  $\mathbf{t}$  is a vector such that if the class is  $C_j$  then  $t_j = 1$  and  $t_k = 0, k \neq j$ .
- Relationship with linear regression models: for regression problem, the simplest model take the form  $y(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0$ , y is a real number; for classification problem, we need to use nonlinear function to transform the linear function of  $\mathbf{w}$  beacuse we wish to predict discrete class labels or more genetally posterior probablities that lie in the range (0,1).
- The form of linear regression model:  $y(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0)$ , where  $f(\cdot)$  is a nonlinear function, known as activation function, whereas its inverse is called a link functoin in the statistics literature. It's called the *generalized linear model* because the decision surfaces correspond to  $y(\mathbf{x}) = const$ , so that  $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = const$  and hence the decision surfaces are linear functions of  $\mathbf{x}$  but not linear in the parameters.?
- The algorithms discussed in this chapter will be equally applicable if we fist make a fixed nonlinear transformation  $\phi(\mathbf{x})$  which is used in Section 4.3.

# 1 Discriminant Functions

A discriminant is a function that takes an input vector  $\mathbf{x}$  and assigns it to one of  $K$  classes, denoted  $C_k$ . In this chapter, we shall restrict attention to linear discriminants, namely those for which the decision surfaces are hyperplanes.

## 1.1 Two classes

The simplest representation of a linear discriminant function is  $y(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0$ . The corresponding decision boundary is  $y(\mathbf{x}) = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{x}$  is assigned to class  $C_1$  if  $y(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0$  and to class  $C_2$  otherwise.

Geometry meaning:

- $\mathbf{w}$  determines the orientation of the decision surface because  $y(\mathbf{x}_A) = y(\mathbf{x}_B) = 0$ , then  $\mathbf{w}^T(\mathbf{x}_A - \mathbf{x}_B) = 0$
- $\frac{y(\mathbf{x})}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$  is the distance between the point  $P$   $\mathbf{x}$  and the boundary hyperplane. Because  $\frac{\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$  is the projection? from  $OP$  to  $\mathbf{w}$ , and  $\frac{w_0}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$  is the projection? from  $OP'$  to  $\mathbf{w}$ ,  $P'$  is the projected point on hyperplane.

## 1.2 Multiple classes

Now consider the extension of linear discriminants to  $K > 2$  classes.

- *one-versus-the-rest* classifier: for each boundary, it discriminate  $C_i(y(\mathbf{x}) > 0)$  and not  $C_i(y(\mathbf{x}) < 0)$ . Not applicable  $\times$ .
- *one-versus-one* classifier: it discriminate  $C_i(y(\mathbf{x}) > 0)$  and  $C_j(y(\mathbf{x}) < 0)$ . Not applicable  $\times$ .
- A single  $K$ -class discriminant comprising  $K$  linear functions:  $y_k(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}_k^T \mathbf{x} + w_{k0}$ , assign a point  $\mathbf{x}$  to class  $C_k$  if  $y_k(\mathbf{x}) > y_j(\mathbf{x})$  for all  $j \neq k$ . Applicable  $\checkmark$ !

Properties about the  $K$  linear functions:

- The decision boundary between class  $C_k$  and  $C_j$  is therefore given by  $y_k(\mathbf{x}) = y_j(\mathbf{x})$ , i.e.  $(\mathbf{w}_k - \mathbf{w}_j)^T \mathbf{x} + (w_{k0} - w_{j0}) = 0$ . It have the same form and propertied with two-classes case.
- Singly connected and convex: consider two points  $\mathbf{x}_A, \mathbf{x}_B$  both of which lie inside decision region  $R_k$ , any point  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  that lies on the line connecting  $\mathbf{x}_A, \mathbf{x}_B$  also lies inside  $R_k$ . Show it:  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  can be expressed in the form  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \lambda \mathbf{x}_A + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{x}_B$  where  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{x}} &= \lambda \mathbf{x}_A + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{x}_B \\ \xleftrightarrow{\text{Linearity of the discriminant functions}} y_k(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) &= \lambda y_k(\mathbf{x}_A) + (1 - \lambda) y_k(\mathbf{x}_B) \\ \xleftrightarrow{y_k(\mathbf{x}_A) > y_j(\mathbf{x}_A), y_k(\mathbf{x}_B) > y_j(\mathbf{x}_B)} y_k(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) &> y_j(\hat{\mathbf{x}}), \text{ for all } j \neq k \end{aligned}$$

### 1.3 Least squares for classification

$y_k(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}_k^T \mathbf{x} + w_{k0}$  where  $k = 1, \dots, K$ . We can group these together using vector notation so that  $\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}) = \widetilde{\mathbf{W}}^T \widetilde{\mathbf{x}}$ ,  $\widetilde{\mathbf{W}} = (\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}_1, \dots, \widetilde{\mathbf{w}}_K)$ ,  $\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}_k = (w_{k0}, \mathbf{w}_k^T)^T$ ,  $\widetilde{\mathbf{x}} = (1, \mathbf{x}^T)^T$

The sum-of-squares error function can then be written as

$$E_D(\widetilde{\mathbf{W}}) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left\{ (\widetilde{\mathbf{X}} \widetilde{\mathbf{W}} - \mathbf{T})^T (\widetilde{\mathbf{X}} \widetilde{\mathbf{W}} - \mathbf{T}) \right\}$$

Setting the derivative with respect to  $\widetilde{\mathbf{W}}$  to zero, we obtain the solution for  $\widetilde{\mathbf{W}}$  in the form

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{W}} = (\widetilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \widetilde{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \widetilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \mathbf{T} = \widetilde{\mathbf{X}}^\dagger \mathbf{T}$$

We then obtain the discriminant function in the form

$$\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}) = \widetilde{\mathbf{W}}^T \widetilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{T}^T (\widetilde{\mathbf{X}}^\dagger)^T \widetilde{\mathbf{x}}$$

Properties:

- If every target vector in the training set satisfied some linear constraint  $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{t}_n + b = 0$ , then the model prediction will satisfy the same constraint so that  $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}) + b = 0$
- If we use a 1-of-K coding scheme for K classes,  $\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x})$  will sum to 1, but it can't be interpreted as probabilities because they are not constrained to lie within the interval (0,1).
- Lack robustness to outliers, that is outliers have a great effect on the decision boundaries. It has more severe problems than robustness. Why? Because least squares for classification corresponds to maximum likelihood under the assumption of a Gaussian conditional distribution, whereas binary target vectors have a distribution that is far from Gaussian. We can solve this by using a more appropriate probabilistic models.

### 1.4 Fisher's linear discriminant

Consider  $y(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}$ , assign  $\mathbf{x}$  to class  $C_1$ , otherwise class  $C_2$ . By adjusting the components of the weight vector  $\mathbf{w}$ , we can select a projection that maximizes the class separation. We introduce two methods to measure the separation of the classes.

1. Maximize the class mean separation

$$\text{Maximize } m_2 - m_1 = \mathbf{w}^T (\mathbf{m}_2 - \mathbf{m}_1), \mathbf{m}_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n \in C_k} \mathbf{x}_n, \text{ where } \sum_i w_i^2 = 1$$

Using a Lagrange multiplier to perform the constrained maximization, we then find  $\mathbf{w} \propto (\mathbf{m}_2 - \mathbf{m}_1)$ .

Two classes may have considerable overlap when projected onto the line

joining their means. This difficulty arises from the within-class distribution is not junyunde?, that's strongly nondiagonal covariances of the class distributions.

Fisher solves it by maximizing a function that will give a large separation between the projected class mean while also giving a small variance within each projected class, thereby minimizing the class overlap.

2. Fisher discriminant criteria

The within-class variance of the transformed data from class  $C_k$  is given by  $s_k^2 = \sum_{n \in C_k} (y_n - m_k)^2$ ,  $y_n = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_n$ ,  $m_k = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{m}_k$ .

The Fisher criterion is defined to be the ratio of the between-class variance(class mean separation) to the within-class variance and is given by

$$\begin{aligned} J(\mathbf{w}) &= \frac{(m_2 - m_1)^2}{s_1^2 + s_2^2} \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{S}_B \mathbf{w}}{\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{S}_W \mathbf{w}}, \mathbf{S}_B = (\mathbf{m}_2 - \mathbf{m}_1)(\mathbf{m}_2 - \mathbf{m}_1)^T, \\ \mathbf{S}_W &= \sum_{n \in C_1} (\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{m}_1)(\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{m}_1)^T + \sum_{n \in C_2} (\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{m}_2)(\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{m}_2)^T \end{aligned}$$

Differentiate  $J(\mathbf{w})$  with respect to  $\mathbf{w}$ , we find that  $J(\mathbf{w})$  is maximized when

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{S}_B \mathbf{w}) \mathbf{S}_W \mathbf{w} &= (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{S}_W \mathbf{w}) \mathbf{S}_B \mathbf{w} \\ &\xleftrightarrow{\text{Ignore magnitude}} \mathbf{S}_W \mathbf{w} \propto \mathbf{S}_B \mathbf{w} \\ &\xleftrightarrow{? \mathbf{S}_B = (\mathbf{m}_2 - \mathbf{m}_1)(\mathbf{m}_2 - \mathbf{m}_1)^T} \mathbf{S}_W \mathbf{w} \propto (\mathbf{m}_2 - \mathbf{m}_1) \\ &\iff \mathbf{w} \propto \mathbf{S}_W^{-1} (\mathbf{m}_2 - \mathbf{m}_1) \end{aligned}$$

- 1.5 Relation to least squares
- 1.6 The perceptron algorithm
- 2 Probabilistic Generative Models**
  - 2.1 Continuous inputs
  - 2.2 Maximum likelihood solution
  - 2.3 Discrete features
  - 2.4 Exponential family
- 3 Probabilistic Discriminative Models**
  - 3.1 Fixed basis functions
  - 3.2 Logistic regression
  - 3.3 Iterative reweighted least squares
  - 3.4 Multiclass logistic regression
  - 3.5 Probit regression
  - 3.6 Canonical link functions
- 4 The Laplace Approximation**
  - 4.1 Model comparison and BIC
- 5 Bayesian Logistic Regression**
  - 5.1 Laplace approximation
  - 5.2 Predictive distribution