Big Data and Automated Content Analysis (12EC)

Week 4: »Statistical Modelling and Machine learning«
Wednesday

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Uv A RM Communication Science

Today

Overview

Supervising Machine Learning: Predicting things

You have done it before!

From regression to classification

Unsupervised machine learning

Finding similar variables

An introduction to dimensionality reduction

Principal Component Analysis and Singular Value Decomposition

Finding similar cases

k-means clustering

Hierarchical clustering

Next steps



Everything clear from last week?

Main points from last week

I assume that by now, everybody knows:

- how to get any data, in any shape, in all common file formats, into a structure usable for future analysis;
- how to create a report in Jupyter Notebook using Markdown cells as well as matplotlib and seaborn (optionally: other visualization libraries).

This week, we will get a general overview of ML and statistical modelling. In Part II of the course, we will go more in-depth and specifically use these techniques in combination with textual data.

Unsupervised ML

Overview

There are bottom-up and top-down approaches. Think: explorative anlaysis and finding patterns vs. finding something pre-defined and testing a specific hypothesis.

Unsupervised ML

Some terminology

Supervised machine learning

You have a dataset with both predictor and outcome (independent and dependent variables; features and labels)

— a labeled dataset. Think of

regression: You measured x1, x2, x3 and you want to predict y, which you also measured

Unsupervised machine learning

You have no labels. (You did not measure y)

You might already know some techniques to figure out whether x1, x2,...x_i co-occur

- Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)
- Topic modelling (Non-negative matrix factorization and Latent

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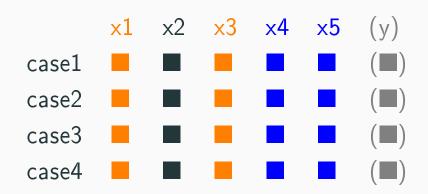
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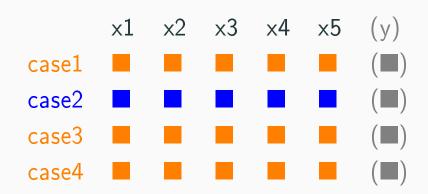
Let's distinguish four use cases...

- Finding similar variables (dimensionality reduction) unsupervised
- 2. Finding similar cases (clustering) unsupervised
- 3. Predicting a continous variable (regression) supervised
- 4. Predicting group membership (classification) supervised

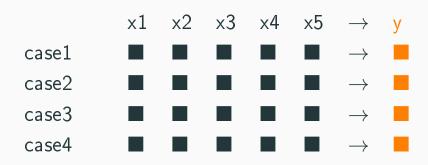
	×1	x2	x3	x4	x5	у
case1						
case2						
case3						
case4						



Dimensionality reduction: finding similar variables (features)



Clustering: finding similar cases



new case lacksquare

Regression and classification: learn how to predict y.

Note, again, that the ■ signs can be anything: a person's age, the frequency of a word, the color of a pixel, a number of clicks.

	x1	x2	x3	×4	x5	У
case1						
case2						
case3						
case4						

You have done it before!

Regression

- 1. Based on your data, you estimate some regression equation $v_i = \alpha + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \cdots + \beta_n x_{in} + \varepsilon_i$
- 2. Even if you have some *new unseen data*, you can estimate you expected outcome \hat{y} !
- Example: You estimated a regression equation where y is newspaper reading in days/week:
 - $y = -.8 + .4 \times man + .08 \times age$
- 4. You could now calculate \hat{y} for a man of 20 years and a woman of 40 years even if no such person exists in your dataset: $\hat{y}_{man20} = -.8 + .4 \times 1 + .08 \times 20 = 1.2$ $\hat{y}_{woman40} = -.8 + .4 \times 0 + .08 \times 40 = 2.4$

Predicting things

Regression

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This is Supervised Machine Learning!

. . . but. . .

- We will only use half (or another fraction) of our data to estimate the model, so that we can use the other half to check if our predictions match the manual coding ("labeled data", "annotated data" in SML-lingo)
 - e.g., 2000 labeled cases, 1000 for training, 1000 for testing if successful, run on 100,000 unlabeled cases
- We use many more independent variables ("features")
- For text analysis, IVs can be, e.g., word frequencies

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From regression to classification

In the machine learning world, predicting some continous value is referred to as a regression task. If we want to predict a binary or categorical variable, we call it a classification task.

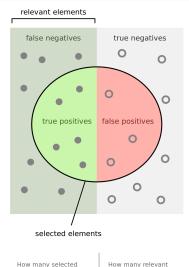
(quite confusingly, even if we use a logistic regression for the latter)

Classification tasks

Predicting things

For many computational approaches, we are actually not that interested in predicting a continous value. Typical questions include:

- Is this article about topic A, B, C, D, or E?
- Is this review positive or negative?
- Does this text contain frame F?
- Is this satire?
- Is this misinformation?
- Given past behavior, can I predict the next click?



items are selected?

Recall =

items are relevant?

Precision =

Some measures

- Accuracy
- Recall
- Precision
- F1 = $2 \cdot \frac{\text{precision} \cdot \text{recall}}{\text{precision} + \text{recall}}$
- AUC (Area under curve)
 [0,1], 0.5 = random
 guessing

Different classification algorithms

- It is an empirical question which one works best
- We typically try several ones and select the best
- (remember: we have a test dataset that we did not use to train the model, so that we can assess how well it predicts the test labels based on the test features)
- To avoid p-hacking-like scenario's (which we call "overfitting"), there are techniques available (cross-validation, later in this course)

To make it easier, we focus on binary classfication ("positive"/"negative"), but it doesn't really matter whether there are two or more labels)

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Bayes' theorem

$$P(A \mid B) = \frac{P(B \mid A) \times P(A)}{P(B)}$$

 $\mathsf{A} = \mathsf{Text}$ is about sports

B = Text contains 'very', 'close', 'game'. Furthermore, we simply multiply the propabilities for the features:

$$P(B) = P(very\ close\ game) = P(very) \times P(close) \times P(game)$$

We can fill in all values by counting how many articles are about sports, and how often the words occur in these texts. (Fully elaborated

example on https://monkeylearn.com/blog/practical-explanation-naive-bayes-classifier/

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Naïve Bayes

- It's "naïve" because the features are treated as completely independent (≠ "controlling" in regression analysis)
- It's fast and easy
- It's a good baseline for binary classification problems

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$$\begin{aligned} & P(\text{label} \mid \text{features}) = \\ & \frac{P(x_1 \mid \textit{label}) \cdot P(x_2 \mid \text{label}) \cdot P(x_3 \mid \text{label}) \cdot P(\text{label})}{P(x_1) \cdot P(x_2) \cdot P(x_3)} \end{aligned}$$

- Formulas always look intimidating, but we only need to fill in how many documents containing feature x_n have the label, how often the label occurs, and how often each feature occurs
- Also for computers, this is really easy and fast
- Weird assumption: features are independent
- Often used as a baseline

Next steps

Logistic Regression

Probability of a binary outcome in a regression model

$$p = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \beta_n x_n)}}$$

Just like in OLS regression, we have an intercept and regression coefficients. We use a threshold (default: 0.5) and above, we assign the positive label ('good movie'), below, the negative label ('bad movie').

Logistic Regression

- The features are *not* independent.
- Computationally more expensive than Naïve Bayes
- We can get probabilities instead of just a label
- That allows us to say how sure we are for a specific case
- ...or to change the threshold to change our precision/recall-tradeoff

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Predicting things

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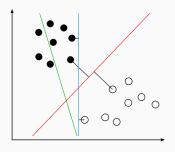
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Support Vector Machines

- Idea: Find a hyperplane that best seperates your cases
- Can be linear, but does not have to be (depends on the so-called kernel you choose)
- Very popular



 $\label{eq:https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b5/Svm_separating_hyperplanes $\%28SVG\%29.svg$

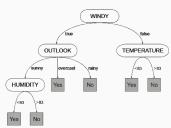
(Further reading:

https://monkeylearn.com/blog/introduction-to-support-vector-machines-svm/)

- for linearly separable classes not much difference
- with the right hyperparameters, SVM is less sensitive to outliers
- biggest advantage: with the kernel trick, data can be transformed that they become linearily separable

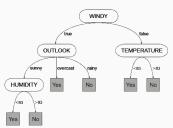
Decision Trees and Random Forests

- Model problem as a series of decisions (e.g., if cloudy then ... if temperature > 30 degrees then ...)
- Order and cutoff-points are determined by an algorithm
- Big advantage: Model non-linear relationships
- And: They are easy to interpret (!) ("white box")



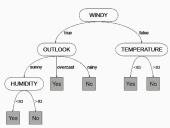
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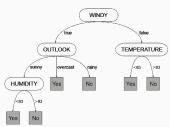
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Decision Trees and Random Forests

Disadvantages of decision trees

- comparatively inaccurate
- once you are in the wrong branch, you cannot go 'back up'
- prone to overfitting (e.g., outlier in training data may lead to completely different outcome)

Therfore, nowadays people use *random forests*: Random forests *combine* the predictions of *multiple* trees \Rightarrow might be a good choice for your non-linear classification problem

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A lot of applications and use cases, ...

- ...but we'll distinguish two today:
 - 1. Finding similar variables (dimension reduction)
 - 2. Finding similar cases (clustering)

Are we more interested in which features "belong together" or which cases "belong together"?

There are many other techniques than those presented today, and vice versa, those presented today can also be used for other purposes

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Unsupervised ML

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Finding similar variables

Unsupervised ML

Dimensionality reduction

dimensionality = the number of features we have

- (1) Explorative data analysis and visualization
 - No good way to visualize 10,000 dimensions (or even 4)
- (2) The curse of dimensionality

More features means more data (good!), but

- Too many features can lead to unfeasible computation times
- We need more training cases to increase the likelihood that the possible combinations actually occur

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Dimensionality reduction

Feature extraction

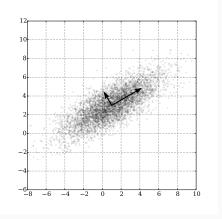
- Create a smaller set of features
- E.g.: 1,000 features \rightarrow PCA to reduce to 50 components \rightarrow SML with these 50 component scores as features

So, we can use unsupervised ML as a dimension reduction step in a supervised ML pipeline.

Unsupervised ML

But it can also be a goal in itself, to understand the data better or to visualize them.

- related to and often confused with Factor Analysis (same menu item in SPSS – many people who believe they run FA actually run PCA!)
- Components are ordered (first explains most variance)
- Components do not necessarily carry a meaningful interpretation



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f5/GaussianScatterPCA.svg

Preparation: Import modules and get some sample data

```
support_refugees_n support_migrants_n
                                            age educational_n
country
Austria
               2 847674 2 576744 49 445349
                                                    18 930233
Belgium
              2.772619
                             2.252381 53.002381 19.338095
Bulgaria
             2.075159
                               1.769427 51.517197 19.652229
Croatia
            2.717105
                               2.002193 47.001096
                                                    18.899123
Cyprus
               3.018141
                                2.104308 53.734694
                                                    18.598639
```

Running PCA

```
# we first standardize our data to z-scores
     scaler = StandardScaler()
3
     df_s = scaler.fit_transform(df)
4
5
     mvpca = PCA()
     componentscores = mypca.fit_transform(df_s)
6
     scores_df = pd.DataFrame(componentscores, index=df.index)
7
8
     components_df = pd.DataFrame(data=mypca.components_.T)
9
     components_df.index = df.columns
1.0
     print("Variable loadings on the 4 components:")
11
     print(components_df)
12
13
     # This is the transformed dataset
14
     # As we will see in a minute, we retain 86 \% of the
15
     # variance even if we keep only the first 2 components
16
     print("The component scores for each case:")
17
     print(scores_df)
18
```

Running PCA

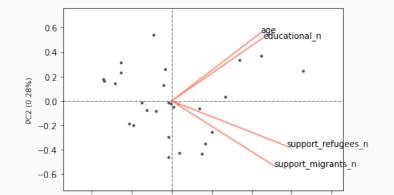
```
1
     Variable loadings on the 4 components:
 2
                                              2
                                                        3
 3
     support_refugees_n 0.573292 -0.369010 0.139859 0.718058
 4
     support_migrants_n 0.513586 -0.533140 -0.094283 -0.665659
 5
     ag e
                      0.445117 0.558601 0.670994 -0.199005
 6
     educational_n 0.457642 0.517261 -0.722023 0.041073
 7
 8
 9
     The component scores for each country:
10
                                                    3
11
     country
12
     Austria
                 -0.103285 -1.220018 -0.535673 0.066888
13
     Belgium
                 -0.029355 -0.084707 0.051515 0.227609
14
     Bulgaria
                  -1.660518 0.949533 -0.480337 -0.151837
15
     Croatia
                  -1.267502 -0.819093 -0.920657 0.843682
16
     Cyprus
                  0.060590 -0.195928 0.573670 0.812519
17
     Czech republic -2.219795 0.675655 -0.763679 -0.086147
18
     Denmark
                   2.925631 1.516636 -0.748940 0.495489
     Estonia
19
                  -0.602217 2.206418 0.785869 -0.152262
20
     Finland
                  2.224310 1.384983 -0.169499 -0.468742
21
     France
                  -0.102062 -0.046415 0.228587 -0.122965
22
     Germany
                 0.917864 -0.259560 0.940792 0.319158
23
     Greece
                  -0.832343 -0.313480 0.329525 0.683748
24
     Hungary
                  -2.234701 0.716823 0.391788 -0.315312
25
     Ireland
                   0.993243 -1.767147 -0.592957 -0.168892
```

Plotting the result

2

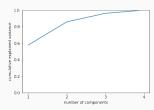
3

```
import bioinfokit.visuz
bioinfokit.visuz.cluster.biplot(cscore=componentscores,
  loadings=mypca.components_,
  labels=df.columns,
  var1=round(mypca.explained_variance_ratio_[0],2),
  var2=round(mypca.explained_variance_ratio_[1],2),
  show=True)
```



Plotting the result

```
import numpy as np
     import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
     fig, ax = plt.subplots()
5
     ax.plot(np.cumsum(mypca.explained_variance_ratio_))
     ax.set_xticks(range(mypca.n_components_))
     ax.set_xticklabels(range(1, mypca.n_components_+1))
     ax.set_xlabel("number of components")
8
     ax.set_ylabel("cumulative explained variance")
9
     ax.set_ylim(0,1)
10
     fig.savefig("pca-explained-variance.png") # optional of course
11
```



Singular value decomposition

PCA uses a dense matrix!

In "real life" with larger datasets (essentially, everything (!) involving text), we never use PCA but SVD. It works exactly the same (check out scikit-learn.org), but does not require to hold a dense matrix in memory. Instead, it operates on a sparse matrix, in which only non-zero values are stored. (this will make a lot of sense once we talk about textual data)

^{*} It's mathematically different, but SVD is even used "under the hood" by several PCA modules to solve PCA problems. More info and background: https://towardsdatascience.com/pca-and-svd-explained-with-numpy-5d13b0d2a4d8

Finding similar cases

Grouping features vs grouping cases

- In the previous example, we established that age and education measure almost the same thing, and so do support_refugees and support_migrants.
- We could now, for instance, check out which countries receive similar scores to group them.
- But if grouping countries (instead of variables) is our goal in the first place, we can directly do so.

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- Goal: group cases into k clusters
- k is set in advance
- Algorithm to determine k centroids (points in the middle of the cases that belong to it) such that the distances between the cases and their centroids are minimized
- non-deterministic: starts with a randomly choosen centroids (there are other versions)
- Cheap to compute: works even with large number of cases
- We can run PCA first to reduce the number of features if we want/need to

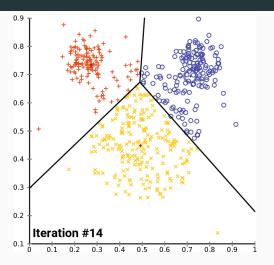
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https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ea/K-means convergence.gif

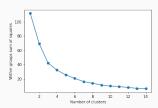
```
from sklearn.cluster import KMeans
2
   # everything needs to be measured on the same scale,
   # therefore we take the scaled dataset
5
   mykm = KMeans(n_clusters=3).fit(df_s)
   pd.DataFrame({"country":df.index, "cluster":mykm.labels_})
           country cluster
           Austria
          Belgium
          Bulgaria
           Croatia
                    0
           Cvprus
      Czech republic
                      0
```

Finding the optimal k

- The only way to find k is to estimate multiple models with different ks
- No single best solution; finding a balance between error within clusters (distances from centroid) and low number of clusters.
- An elbow plot can be helpful

Finding the optimal k

```
1  wss = []
2  for i in range(1, 15):
3    km = KMeans(n_clusters=i)
4    km.fit(df_s)
5    wss.append(km.inertia_)
6
7  fig, ax = plt.subplots()
8  ax.plot(range(1, 15), wss, marker="o")
9  ax.set_xlabel("Number of clusters")
10  ax.set_ylabel("Within groups sum of squares")
```



Downsides of k-means clustering

k-means is fast, but has problems:

- k can only be determined by fitting multiple models and comparing them
- bad results if the wrong k is chosen
- bad results if the (real) clusters are non-spherical
- bad results if the (real) clusters are not evenly sized

Hiearchical clusttering

General idea

- To start, each case has its own cluster
- Merge the two clusters that are most similar
- Repeat until desired number of clusters is reached

Different options

- Stopping criterion: based on numerical statistic (e.g., Duda-Hart) or dendrogram
- Linkage: how to determine which two clusters should be merged?

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Next steps

https://scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/clustering.html # hierarchical-clustering

⇒ Ward's linkage is a good default all-rounder choice, especially if you encounter the problem that other linkages lead to almost all cases ending up in one cluster.

Hierarchical clustering takeaway

- The main reason *not* to use hierarchical methods (but k-means) is their computational cost: when clustering survey data of media users, never use k-means!
- But for NLP/ML, costs may be too high (if not used carefully)
- Very much worth considering, though, if you are really into grouping cases!

Important notes (for all techniques today)

Consider the scales of measurement

Clustering is based on distances – if your features are not measured on the same scale, or if it is not meaningful to calculate a numerical distance, it won't produce meaningful results!

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Consider standardizing/whitening your features!

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Pay attention outliers/extreme cases

Extreme cases or outliers can have a strong influence.

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Consider standardizing/whitening your features!

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Extreme cases or outliers can have a strong influence.

Do proper pre-processing

To reduce the number of features, but also to have *meaningful* features (dimensions on which you expect high distances between the clusters).



Any questions?

Next steps

Make sure you understood all of today's concepts.

Re-read the chapters.

I prepared exercises to work on *during* the Friday meeting (alone or in teams):

https://github.com/uvacw/teaching-bdaca/blob/ main/12ec-course/week04/exercises/ Take-home exam next week Friday!

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