

INTRO to DATA SCIENCE

LECTURE 7: NAIVE BAYESIAN CLASSIFICATION

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DAT9 SF // September 2, 2014

RECAP

LAST TIME:

DATA MUNGING IN PYTHON:

- CASE STUDY / EXERCISE**
- JSON**
- APIS**

QUESTIONS?

AGENDA

I. INTRO TO PROBABILITY

II. NAÏVE BAYESIAN CLASSIFICATION

EXERCISES:

III. LAB: IMPLEMENTING NAIVE BAYES CLASSIFICATION IN PYTHON

I. INTRO TO PROBABILITY

Q: What is a probability?

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A: A number between 0 and 1 that characterizes the likelihood that some event will occur.

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The probability of event A is denoted $P(A)$.

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*A: This set is called the **sample space** Ω . Event A is a member of the sample space, as is every other event.*

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The probability of the sample space $P(\Omega)$ is 1.

Q: Consider two events A & B . How can we characterize the intersection of these events?

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A: With the joint probability of A and B , written $P(AB)$.

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NOTE

This information about B transforms the sample space.

Take a moment to convince yourself of this!

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*This is called the **conditional probability** of A given B , written $P(A|B) = P(AB) / P(B)$.*

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*Notice, with this we can also write $P(AB) = P(A|B) * P(B)$.*

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A: Information about one does not affect the probability of the other.

This can be written as $P(A|B) = P(A)$.

Using the definition of the conditional probability, we can also write:

$$P(A|B) = P(AB) / P(B) = P(A) \rightarrow P(AB) = P(A) * P(B)$$

A motivating example: COOKIES!



*Bowl 1 contains:
30 vanilla cookies
10 chocolate chip cookies*



*Bowl 2 contains:
20 vanilla cookies
20 chocolate chip cookies*

Now suppose you choose one of the bowls at random and, without looking, select a cookie at random. The cookie is vanilla. What is the probability that it came from Bowl 1?



*Bowl 1 contains:
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In other words, we want: $P(\text{Bowl 1} \mid \text{vanilla})$ This is a conditional probability.

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How can we compute this?

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What about $P(\text{vanilla} \mid \text{Bowl 1})$?

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What about $P(\text{vanilla} \mid \text{Bowl 1})$? That's easy! $P(\text{vanilla} \mid \text{Bowl 1}) = 30/40 = 3/4$

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But $P(\text{Bowl 1} \mid \text{vanilla})$ is NOT equal to $P(\text{vanilla} \mid \text{Bowl 1}) = 3/4$

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$$P(BA) = P(B|A) * P(A)$$

*from earlier slide
by substitution*

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$$\rightarrow P(A|B) * P(B) = P(B|A) * P(A)$$

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$$\rightarrow P(A|B) = P(B|A) * P(A) / P(B)$$

by rearranging last step

*This result is called **Bayes' theorem**.*

$$P(A|B) = P(A) * P(B|A) / P(B)$$

We want: $P(\text{Bowl 1} \mid \text{vanilla})$



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$$P(A|B) = P(A) * P(B|A) / P(B)$$

What is $P(A)$?

What is $P(B)$?

What is $P(B|A)$?

We want: $P(\text{Bowl 1} \mid \text{vanilla})$



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$$P(A|B) = P(A) * P(B|A) / P(B)$$

$$P(A) = 0.5$$

$$P(B) = 50 / 80 = 5/8$$

$$P(B|A) = 30/40 = 3/4$$

We want: $P(\text{Bowl 1} \mid \text{vanilla})$



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*This result is called **Bayes' theorem**. Here it is again:*

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Some facts:

- This is a simple algebraic relationship using elementary definitions.*
- It's interesting because it's kind of a "wormhole" between two different "interpretations" of probability.*
- It's a very powerful computational tool.*

Briefly, the two interpretations can be described as follows:

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The frequentist interpretation regards an event's probability as its limiting frequency across a very large number of trials.

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The Bayesian interpretation regards an event's probability as a "degree of belief," which can apply even to events that have not yet occurred.

If this sounds crazy to you, don't worry...we won't dwell on the theoretical details.

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This a good direction to head if you like math and/or if you're interested in learning about cutting-edge data science techniques.

II. NAÏVE BAYESIAN CLASSIFICATION

*Suppose we have a dataset with features x_1, \dots, x_n and a class label c .
What can we say about classification using Bayes' theorem?*

Suppose we have a dataset with features x_1, \dots, x_n and a class label C . What can we say about classification using Bayes' theorem?

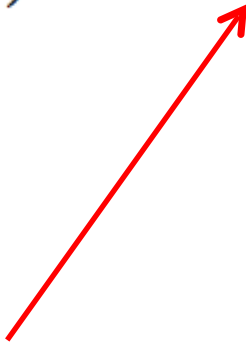
$$P(\text{class } C \mid \{x_i\}) = \frac{P(\{x_i\} \mid \text{class } C) \cdot P(\text{class } C)}{P(\{x_i\})}$$

Bayes' theorem can help us to determine the probability of a record belonging to a class, given the data we observe.

Each term in this relationship has a name, and each plays a distinct role in any Bayesian calculation (including ours).

$$P(\text{class } C \mid \{x_i\}) = \frac{P(\{x_i\} \mid \text{class } C) \cdot P(\text{class } C)}{P(\{x_i\})}$$

*This term is the **likelihood function**. It represents the joint probability of observing features $\{x_i\}$ given that that record belongs to class C .*

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*The **likelihood** of seeing that evidence if your hypothesis is correct.*

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We can observe the value of the likelihood function from the training data.

*This term is the **prior probability** of c . It represents the probability of a record belonging to class c before the data is taken into account.*

$$P(\text{class } C | \{x_i\}) = \frac{P(\{x_i\} | \text{class } C) \cdot P(\text{class } C)}{P(\{x_i\})}$$



*The **prior***

*This term is the **prior probability** of C . It represents the probability of a record belonging to class C before the data is taken into account.*

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The value of the prior is also observed from the data.

*This term is the **normalizing constant**. It doesn't depend on C , and is generally ignored until the end of the computation.*

$$P(\text{class } C \mid \{x_i\}) = \frac{P(\{x_i\} \mid \text{class } C) \cdot P(\text{class } C)}{P(\{x_i\})}$$



The probability of the data under any hypothesis.

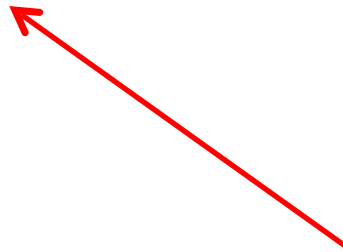
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$$P(\text{class } C \mid \{x_i\}) = \frac{P(\{x_i\} \mid \text{class } C) \cdot P(\text{class } C)}{P(\{x_i\})}$$

The normalizing constant doesn't tell us much.

*This term is the **posterior probability** of C . It represents the probability of a record belonging to class C after the data is taken into account.*

$$P(\text{class } C \mid \{x_i\}) = \frac{P(\{x_i\} \mid \text{class } C) \cdot P(\text{class } C)}{P(\{x_i\})}$$



*In other words, the probability of the hypothesis **after** seeing the evidence.*

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The goal of any Bayesian computation is to find (“learn”) the posterior distribution of a particular variable.

*The idea of Bayesian inference, then, is to **update** our beliefs about the distribution of C using the data (“evidence”) at our disposal.*

$$P(\text{class } C \mid \{x_i\}) = \frac{P(\{x_i\} \mid \text{class } C) \cdot P(\text{class } C)}{P(\{x_i\})}$$

Then we can use the posterior for prediction.

Q: What piece of the puzzle we've seen so far looks like it could intractably difficult in practice?

Remember the likelihood function?

$$P(\{x_i\}|C) = P(\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}|C)$$

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Observing this exactly would require us to have enough data for every possible combination of features to make a reasonable estimate.

Q: What piece of the puzzle we've seen so far looks like it could intractably difficult in practice?

A: Estimating the full likelihood function.

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$$P(\{x_i\}|C) = P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n|C) \approx P(x_1|C) * P(x_2|C) * \dots * P(x_n|C)$$

Q: So what can we do about it?

A: Make a simplifying assumption. In particular, we assume that the features x_i are conditionally independent from each other:

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This “naïve” assumption simplifies the likelihood function to make it tractable.

III. LAB: SPAM FILTER